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ARAB TIMES

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 19-20, 1988 SHAWWAAL 4-5, 1408 AH 20 PAGES 150 FILS

Explosion rocks KAC building following threat

Car bomb blast kills 2 Kuwaitis

By Jadranka Porter

A CAR bomb exploded yesterday in Kuwait City near the Kuwait Airways building on the Hilali Street killing the driver and a passenger.

The explosion was caused by a time-bomb, said an Interior Ministry spokesman who identified the two victims as Kuwaitis.

The blast took place at 9.05 pm in front of the Orhan building which is adjacent to the KAC building.

The spokesman said that Kuwait Airways received a bomb threat by telephone at 8.30 pm and immediately alerted the police.

Charred

He was inclined to believe that the booby-trapped Mazda car which exploded on its way from the Gulf Street to the Fahd Al Salem Street was heading towards the KAC office.

Eyewitnesses said that ambulances arrived on the site within minutes after the explosion. They said one of the victims was blown to pieces.

The charred lower part of the second victim's body, which was cut into two by the blast, was wrenched from the incinerated wreckage at 10.20 pm.

Eyewitnesses reported that another person, also a passenger, was killed, but this could not be confirmed.

The explosion damaged several other cars including an Oldsmobile driven by a Syrian, shattered several windows in the



Police examining the wreckage of the car. (Photo by Raad Qutaina)

building housing the Maharaja Indian restaurant and set a palm tree ablaze.

The police cordoned off the section of Hilali Street linking the Gulf Street and Fahd Al Salem Street. A truck with a generator was on the site with floodlights helping dozens of policemen examine the wreckage and collect evidence.

The restaurant in the nearby Carlton Tower hotel was closed after the explosion forced the

guests to flee home.

The explosion was the third in less than a month in Kuwait, which lies close to the Iraq-Iran warfront and has been a repeated target of acts of terrorism for which the Iraqis are held to blame.

Shops on Fahd Al Salem Street were closed at the time. There would have been few if any pedestrians at the time of the blast, residents said, as it was the third day of Eid al Fitr.

A Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 was hijacked by gunmen who have been identified as pro-Iranian Shiite extremists, and two of its Kuwaiti passengers were killed in a 16-day ordeal.

The hijackers were demanding the release of 17 companions jailed in Kuwait for bombing the US and French embassies.

Earlier blasts on April 27 and May 7 were in the same area, the first in front of the offices of

Saudi Arabia's national airline Saudia and the second at the offices of the US car rental company Avis.

A guard was injured in the first blast.

A Kuwaiti newspaper recently reported that three persons were arrested in connection with the two earlier blasts, but the authorities have yet to confirm this. The paper said one of the three was Iranian and the two others were non-Gulf Arabs.

Tehran strikes back

Iranians attack Japanese ship

MANAMA, Bahrain, May 18, (Agencies): Iranian speedboats ventured into the Strait of Hormuz to attack a Japanese-owned chemical tanker today, in a first step toward evening the score with Iraqi warplanes lately ravaging Tehran's oil lifeline.

The raiders riddled both sides of the 6,730-ton Ace Chemi with rocket-propelled grenades triggering a fire that forced its Japanese captain and 16 South Korean crewmen to abandon ship, but all were rescued by salvage tugs, according to Gulf-based shipping executives.

Control

The Iranians attacked the Ace Chemi 11 miles (18 km) south of Larak, as the ship was heading into the Gulf, bound for the Saudi Arabian oil port of Jubail for a cargo of petrochemicals, the shipping executives said.

Two salvage tugboats brought the flames under control.

The Ace Chemi apparently suffered engine room damage and was being towed to the southern Gulf port of Dubai, the sources said.

It was the first reported attack by Iranian gunboats on a neutral vessel in more than three weeks, and came a month to the day after a major clash with US naval forces in which six Iranian craft were sunk or disabled.

It also was the first since the US administration implemented on May 3 a new get-tough policy that permits Navy ships to intervene in attacks on commercial vessels on request, and regardless of what flag they are flying.

Abilaze

A US Navy spokesman said US warships were on patrol as usual in the southern Gulf and Hormuz area at the time of the attack, and monitored the Panamanian-flagged tanker's "Mayday" distress call, though garbled, on radio.

However, the nearest US vessel was 60 miles (95 km) away, a two-hour sail at top speed.

Meanwhile, the Spanish super-tanker Barcelona was reported to have settled to the bottom off Iran's Larak Island oil terminal, its superstructure still ablaze five days after Iraq's most devastating air strike ever against Iranian targets in the Gulf.

Shipping executives, asking not to be named, said firefighting efforts had ended and the 235,000-ton tanker, among the biggest vessels in Spain's fleet, was likely to be a total loss.

The Barcelona had been wracked by explosions yesterday, causing one of four nearby salvage tugboats, the Scan Force, to sink with its crew of six Norwegians and three Poles, according to shipping sources.

Three crewmen were also killed aboard the Belgian-flag tug Ferdinand Verbiest, according to Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit, which monitors maritime developments worldwide.

The unofficial death toll thus stood at 34 from Iraq's long-distance strike on Larak. The terminal, off Iran's coast in the Hormuz, is where international tankers pick up oil cargoes brought down the Gulf by Iran's own fleet of shuttle tankers.

A total of five ships were hit in the raid, the most seriously damaged being the Barcelona, the 152,004-ton Cyprus-flagged Argosy, a chartered shuttle vessel, and the 564,739-ton Seawise Giant, the largest ship afloat.

Accept

The outlook for the Seawise Giant, which flies the Liberian flag and is managed by a Hong Kong company, was uncertain, according to shipping salvage executives. The huge ship was damaged but survived two earlier raids on Larak last October and December.

Acknowledging that the Barcelona would not have qualified because it was in Iranian territorial waters, Spanish officials in Madrid announced "acceptance of the US offer" to protect non-US flag shipping.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said Spain recognised that the action was "not without risks, but the Spanish government believes (the US plan) guarantees to the degree possible the passage of ships in international waters."

In London, the Foreign Office said Iraq warned Britain twice that its tankers could be attacked before the Iraqi strike on Larak. The British-registered Burmah Endeavour was one of the ships damaged in the raid.

Sorties

In Baghdad, a high command communiqué said Iraqi jets and helicopter gunships carried out 174 raids on Iranian troop concentrations.

But the communiqué, and one yesterday which reported 240 air raids, made no mention of the Iranian account of fighting in the rugged mountains of Kurdistan.

In the past, such a high rate of air strikes has usually indicated an Iranian attack was underway.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Revolutionary Guards captured nine peaks in mountains near Dukan.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has fired an Army division commander for negligence during the liberation of the southern Faw Peninsula from Iranian forces last month, newspapers reported today.

KAC goes back to discounted fares

KAC goes back to discounted fares

By Fathima Ahmed

IN a reversal of its earlier decision, Kuwait Airways has issued a circular to travel agents asking them to revert to discounted fares on the Kuwait-Europe sector, according to reliable travel agency sources.

They said the circular was sent by KAC yesterday and would be effective from May 21. Other airlines are expected to follow suit.

However, fares on the Kuwait-India sector remain unchanged.

KAC is the first of the 11 airlines that has reverted to pre-agreement fares. After an agreement among the 11 airlines, that came into effect on May 15, airlines were charging full IATA fares on the Kuwait-Europe and Kuwait-India sectors.

The Civil Aviation Department warned the airlines twice, asking them not to raise prices.

Loss

But the 11 airlines went ahead with the fare hike.

Some of them even issued a written "order" earlier asking travel agents to disregard the Civil Aviation warning on fares.

Travel agents were reluctant to sell tickets at the pre-agreement fare levels giving discounts because the airlines said they would issue "debt slips," in other words the airlines would ask agents to pay full fares, deducting their commission. Travel agents were not prepared to pay the arrears and were sticking to IATA fares.

It is not known what made the KAC back down and revert to discounted fares. But travel agency sources said all these 11 airlines had been losing passengers on both Kuwait-Europe and Kuwait-India routes.

Indians in Kuwait have asked Air-India, one of the 11 airlines, to reduce air fare. A meeting between an Indian action committee, AI manager and the Indian ambassador was held on April 16 to discuss the air fare hike, but no decisions were reached.

Chewing gum causes sterility

A KUWAITI newspaper has claimed that an Iranian-made chewing gum, currently marketed in the Gulf Arab markets, causes sterility in both men and women.

The newspaper in a Riyadh-dated dispatch, said that Saudi Arabian laboratory examinations proved that the chewing gum which carries the brand Sheek "makes a man or woman sterile if they use it."

The paper said the gum was produced in a "neighbouring non-Arab country," but it did not specifically mention Iran.

However the product is marketed freely in Kuwait, and carries the name Sheek.

Kuwaiti public health officials immediately began checking the accuracy of the report, informed sources said.

Syrian deployment in Beirut stalled

Captors threaten to kill hostages

BEIRUT, May 18, (Agencies): The captors of 16 foreign hostages believed held in Beirut's southern suburbs threatened to kill the captives if Syria deploys troops in the slums where rival Shiite groups fought for a 13th day today, a Muslim militia source said.

The source also denied reports the hostages were transferred to the Iranian embassy in Beirut, saying all the hostages "are still in the suburbs and were not moved" from the field of battle between pro-Iranian Hezbollah militants and Amal militia.

A Kuwaiti daily newspaper said nine US hostages were shifted to the Iranian embassy in Beirut after the suburbs' battle flared on May 6.

The newspaper quoted Middle East sources in Washington as saying US authorities knew about the shift in location.

Factor

The Muslim source in Beirut said: "The abductors of the foreigners, based in the suburbs, told the Syrian command that if the Syrian troops advance into the suburbs they will start killing their hostages one after another."

Syria maintains 30,000 troops in Lebanon, including 7,000 troops deployed in West Beirut in February 1987 to quell militia fighting.

On Sunday, Syria said it would also deploy troops for the first time in Beirut's southern Shiite slums to end the recent fighting, but then backed down.

"The threat of the pro-Iranian captors was a main factor used by Iran in pressuring the Syrians into postponing the deployment of their troops," said the source.

An Iranian official predicted today that the problem of 18

foreign hostages in Lebanon would be "solved" if fighting between Hezbollah and Amal was brought to an end.

Acting Iranian Foreign Minister, Ali Mubammad Besharati, made the announcement amid increasing signs that Syria and Iran are differing on ways to end the bloodbath that has killed 243 people and wounded 762.

"The case of kidnapping (foreigners) in Lebanon is part of the crisis which Lebanon is passing through. I believe that if we could end the state of war currently prevailing, then definitely the other case would be solved," Besharati said without further elaboration.

A diplomatic source in Beirut said today, contacts between the United States and Iran over the fate of American hostages, in Lebanon were underway.

The source would not elaborate on the nature of the contacts or at what level they were being held.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad is determined to end Iranian moves in Lebanon and to free all hostages, another Kuwaiti daily said.

High-ranking Arab sources in Paris told the newspaper Assad had also decided to peacefully replace the Iranian Revolutionary Guards stationed in Beirut with Syrian troops.

Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlass arrived in Beirut today.

Fighters of Hezbollah and Amal ignored a ceasefire mediated by Iran and Syria to trade artillery, mortar and rocket fire across debris-strewn streets.

Three people were killed in battles which rocked Chiyah and Ghobeiri districts, Amal's last strongholds in the area.

35 more killed in Punjab

Golden Temple siege ends

AMRITSAR, India, May 18, (Agencies): The 10-day siege of the sacred Golden Temple ended today as suddenly as it began, with 46 Sikh militants surrendering to Indian security forces.

Three preferred suicide. Two tried to escape and were killed.

Earlier, extremists staged three attacks in retaliation for the government operation against their besieged comrades and massacred 35 people.

The dramatic end to a siege sparked by a single shot elated police, who said they had captured some of the most wanted

militants waging a bloody campaign for an independent Sikh homeland they call Khalistan (land of the pure).

"No," said an obviously satisfied K.P.S. Gill, the Sikh police chief of the northern state of Punjab, when reporters asked if any of the besieged militants were unaccounted for.

The siege, which began on May 9 when a militant shot and wounded a senior police officer just outside the holiest Sikh shrine, crumbled after police broadcast another in a series of surrender appeals to militants

inside the inner sanctum.

They had been there since bolting into the Harmandir Sahib housing the Sikh holy book on Sunday during the surrender of 146 combatants. Police had promised not to fire on it.

Police told them to wave a piece of cloth if they wanted to quit a fight in which more than 30 people had been killed. Five minutes later, a piece of saffron cloth — the colour of Sikh martyrdom — appeared from a first floor window.

Shortly afterwards the (Continued on Page 2)

France to restore relations with Iran

PARIS, May 18, (Reuters): Newly-appointed socialist Prime Minister Michel Rocard said he intended to restore France's diplomatic relations with Iran after a 10-month break in line with the previous government's commitments.

Rocard made the announcement at the end of a weekly cabinet meeting.

The former centre-right government headed by Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac said earlier this month that the release of the last French hostages held in Beirut paved the way for diplomatic links with Iran to be restored.

Word

Chirac profusely thanked Iran for its help in securing the release of former hostages Marcel Carton, Marcel Fontaine and Jean-Paul Kauffman after more than three years in captivity, saying last May 5 that Tehran played a key role in getting them out.

The release of the three hostages just before the second

round of the presidential elections on May 8 prompted a deluge of foreign criticism and fuelled speculation that Chirac had made a deal with Iran to help him at the ballot box.

"France's word will be kept," said Rocard, adding, however, that the new government had found no official document committing France to restoring links with Iran.

Return

France severed ties with Iran in July 1987 over the refusal of an embassy employee to testify before a French judge investigating a wave of bomb attacks that shook Paris in the autumn of 1986.

The employee, Vahid Gordji officially described as the embassy's translator, was allowed to return to Iran last November. His departure put an end to the so-called "war of the embassies" in Tehran and Paris.

Rocard said Iran had expressed the desire to improve its relations with the entire world.

One Palestinian killed

Israelis capture commando

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 18, (Reuters): Israeli troops wounded and captured a Palestinian commando who had infiltrated the border from Jordan and exchanged fire with soldiers, the Army said today.

In the West Bank troops shot dead a Palestinian youth and wounded several others, hospital sources said.

The Palestinian commando crossed the border last night a few hundred metres (yards) from the Kfar Ruppin kibbutz (collective farm), the Army said.

Second

Two other commandos who waited on the other side of the border fence fled into Jordan and were being hunted by the Jordanian Army, military sources said.

The incident was the second border penetration from Jordan in six months, and the latest in a spate of attempts to infiltrate Israel this year in support of a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israeli troops shot and killed a

16-year-old Palestinian from the West Bank village of Abwein, hospital sources said. The Army said it was checking the report.

Seven other residents were shot and wounded in the same incident, and two residents of Arurah village were also wounded in a clash with troops, the hospital sources said.

The Palestinian youth's death brings the toll of those killed in a five-month-old rebellion against Israeli occupation to at least 183 Palestinians and two Israelis.

Rare

Israeli Chief of Staff General Dan Shomron visited the border area where the infiltration occurred and said he did not think the incident meant a change in Jordanian policy toward guerrillas, Israel Radio said.

Infiltrations from Jordan have been relatively rare since King Hussein expelled the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) in 1970.

In Amman, Jordanian Information Minister Hani Al Khas-

awneh denied reports of the infiltration and gun battle. "Jordan's stand toward infiltrations is well known. We don't permit them," he said.

Major-General Amran Mizna, head of Israel's central command, said it was too early to determine if the infiltration meant there would be more such attempts from Jordan. "There always has been (infiltration), and there will be attempts in the future to do it again," he told reporters.

Military sources said Jordan security forces were searching for the two commandos who fled.

A United Nations human rights team today began its annual investigation of Israeli behaviour in occupied Arab territories and will later in the week fly to the region to take testimony from Palestinians.

As the UN's main source of information on the human rights situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the panel reports each year to the UN General Assembly. It was set up in 1968.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- سکھ دہشت گردوں نے
- ۳۸ ہندوؤں کو گولی مار دی
- بھارت میں ہندو مسلم
- قسوات
- پاکستان اور بنگلہ دیش کا
- بھارت پر الزام
- خلیج میں جاپانی بحریکے
- ایرانی جنگی کشتیوں کا حملہ
- افغان مجاہدین نے فوجی
- اہمیت کی پیمائش پر ترقی کر لیا
- فلی صفی

WEATHER

HOT weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind.
State of sea: Slight to moderate.
High water: 3.00 am, 1.00 pm
Low water: 8.00 am, 9.00 pm
Sunrise: 4.54 am
Sunset: 6.36 pm
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 44°C (111°F)
Ahmad: 39°C (102°F)
Fahla: 40°C (104°F)
Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 25°C (77°F)
Ahmad: 20°C (68°F)
Fahla: 24°C (75°F)
Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 45°C (113°F)
Ahmad: 40°C (104°F)
Fahla: 42°C (108°F)
Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 31 per cent
Ahmad: 38 per cent
Fahla: 34 per cent
36 per cent humidity expected: Kuwait: 34 per cent
Ahmad: 39 per cent
Fahla: 40 per cent

Peres meets Soviet envoy in Washington

WASHINGTON, May 18. (AP) Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres received a warm endorsement from American leaders for his "peace-making" efforts after two days of talks devoted to exploring prospects of Soviet participation in Mideast peace talks.

Prior to leaving Washington, Peres held an unscheduled meeting last night with Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin at the Washington home of American Jewish leader Edgar Bronfman. Earlier in the day, he met with President Ronald Reagan.

Dubinin expressed "significant differences" in the Soviet position, saying the Kremlin no longer insists on a dominant role for an international conference in Arab-Israeli peace talks, said an Israeli source. "Their positions are more flexible than before," said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Until now the United States and Israel rejected Soviet demands that the superpowers be given an active role in Arab-Israeli talks. The US peace plan envisions the superpowers only as overseers devoid of any power to impose.

Earlier, Assistant Secretary of State Rozanne Ridgway told reporters the Soviets remain ambiguous about their position on the peace plan.

The meeting with Dubinin follows contacts last week between Peres and Soviet officials in Europe.

Bangladesh, Pakistan rap India

BELGRADE, May 18. (Reuters) Security and defence experts from Bangladesh and Pakistan accused India of dominating its neighbours and threatening their security, the state news agency Tanjug said today.

Tanjug said the three-day meeting of experts from 23 non-aligned countries on the Yugoslav island of Brioni was marked by sharp disagreements and accusations.

"India is a regional power in which all its neighbours see a threat to their security," General Agha Ibrahim Akram of the Pakistani Institute for Regional Studies, was quoted as saying.

Tanjug said similar views were expressed by Nefar Choudhury of Bangladesh's Institute for International and Strategic Studies.

She said the threat of Indian domination has forced some smaller countries in the region to ask for outside help.

Jasjit Singh, of India's Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, rejected the idea that India dominated its neighbours. He said it was ready to overcome disagreements and mistrust by increasing regional contacts and cooperation.

Red Army soldiers get heroes' welcome

Soviet troops return home

TERMEZ, Soviet Union, May 18. (Reuters) Bands played, horns honked and flags fluttered as the first convoy of 1,200 Soviet troops leading Moscow's pull-out from Afghanistan were welcomed home as heroes today.

Soldiers, grimy but grinning, waved to cheering crowds from the tops of their tanks as the column rumbled over the friendship bridge across the Amu-Darya River and into the small border town of Termez.

Thousands of people had waited on the river banks since early morning for the arrival of the convoy which in three days had travelled 740 km from Jalalabad in eastern Afghanistan to Kabul and north to the Uzbekistan frontier town.

Welcome to the soldier-internationalists who have courageously fulfilled their duties," proclaimed the banners decorating the streets. Children dressed in communist pioneer uniforms rushed to greet the soldiers with flowers.

This correspondent watched as the first combat vehicle, an armoured personnel carrier driven by 21-year-old Nikolai Novikov, moved over the bridge and on to home soil.

March

In bright sunshine, a band struck up a military march and Termez motorists began honking their horns.

Novikov's vehicle was followed by 229 more tanks and armoured cars which massed for a rally in Termez's main square.

The route to the square bristled with streamers and Soviet flags and roadside food stands offered the soldiers Uzbek dishes of soup with lamb, rice pilaf, fruit, vegetables and drinks.

Under a UN-mediated accord signed in Geneva last month, Moscow agreed to withdraw all of its estimated 115,000 troops from every part of Afghanistan over the next nine months.

It said the Afghan guerrillas

withdrew under "withering bombardment" from Soviet defence positions along the road between the Afghan capital and the strategic Salang tunnel 120 km to the north.

The television report indicated there were no casualties among the Soviet Column.

Foreign correspondents were flown from Moscow to Kabul last week to witness the start of the withdrawal. Today, they were taken to Heiraton from the nearby city of Mazar-e-Sharif to see the column cross the Amu-Darya.

The Soviet Union sent its forces to Afghanistan in December 1979 as pressure from Muslim rebels mounted on the self-proclaimed Marxist regime of then President Hafizullah Amin.

Moscow has given no figures for casualties. But Soviet officers in Jalalabad said at the weekend statistics would be issued when the withdrawal was complete at the end of the year.

Firing

However, a filmed Soviet television report on Tuesday evening said the convoy had come under fire from Muslim rebels on the first leg of their journey from Kabul to the border.

It said the Afghan guerrillas

Passenger liner gutted in Osaka

Ship fire kills 11 Soviets

OSAKA, May 18. (AP) A pre-dawn fire on a lower deck of a docked Soviet passenger liner today killed 11 people, injured 35 and gutted the ship, officials said.

All aboard were Soviet citizens.

The 4,870-ton Priamurye was carrying Communist Youth League members on a tour of Japan. Most passengers were sleeping at the time.

Police said eight badly burned bodies were found on the lowest of three passenger decks, where the fire was discovered shortly after midnight in an area above the ship's engine room.

The 11th body was found on an upper deck this afternoon, almost 12 hours later. Maritime safety officials said they were checking whether anyone was still missing from among the ship's 295 passengers and 129 crew members.

Police said all the victims were

passengers and the crew was accounted for.

The Kyodo news service said police were investigating both careless smoking and an engine-room problem as possible causes of the fire, which sent smoke billowing through the vessel and over this western Japanese harbour.

Twenty-eight of the injured were seriously hurt. The rest were treated for minor burns, smoke inhalation and other injuries, police and fire officials said.

Passengers who fled the ship were taken to a school gymnasium about a half-mile from the harbour, where some lined up at five hastily installed telephones to call their families in the Soviet Union.

The fire appeared to be out about noon, but in mid-afternoon smoke billowed from the ship again. The vessel was listing badly because of water poured

into it by firefighters.

For a while during the morning, the firefighters had to stop pouring water onto the smoky blaze so pumps could remove some of the water.

The fire was the third disaster to hit Soviet passenger ships in just over two years. On Aug 31, 1986, the Admiral Nakhimov collided in the Black Sea with the freighter Pyotr Vasev and 398 lives were lost. On Feb 16, 1986, the Soviet cruise liner Mikhail Lermontov sank after hitting a submerged reef off New Zealand. The single casualty was a Soviet crew member.

The Priamurye had arrived in Osaka on Tuesday. Its voyage began May 7 in the eastern Soviet port of Vladivostok. It had made earlier calls at Otaru, on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, and in Tokyo.

It was to have sailed for Hiroshima on Thursday.

Soviet chemical plant explosion kills three

MOSCOW, May 18. (Reuters) A Soviet spokesman said today that three people had been killed in an explosion at a chemical plant in the Ukraine, but denied that missile fuel was involved.

Spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said that the blast had occurred at a storage building at the plant, which he said produced industrial explosives.

Gerasimov said three people were killed by the blast and by flying objects.

"There was no missile fuel or rockets involved," he said.

He added that five people had been hospitalised after the explosion, which happened on May 12.

In Washington, the US Defence Department reported that several buildings had been destroyed in a huge explosion at the plant, which it said produced rocket fuel for missiles.

It said the incident was likely to delay the Soviet missile programme, involving the SS-24 and SS-25 missiles.

The plant is located near Pavlograd in the Ukraine, some 800 km (500 miles) southwest of Moscow.

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First meeting

BEIJING, May 18. (Reuters) Chinese and Soviet generals have met to discuss border issues in what is believed to be their first formal contact since their forces clashed on the frontier in 1969.

Vice President George Bush, the expected Republican

Judge refuses to ban striptease

LOS ANGELES, May 18. (UPI) A judge has refused to stop stripteases in offices in the Los Angeles area, saying a court ban was unnecessary even though the performances may be inappropriate during work hours.

Superior court judge Miriam Vogel said she believed Robbie Taylor, one of two women who filed a lawsuit Tuesday seeking the ban, was "unduly sensitive" to stripteases that are sprung on someone "in the spirit of good fun."

However, she said Los Angeles government authorities may wish to discourage such entertainment during government business hours, because "what's funny for someone at a party may not be funny for someone else."

The Los Angeles county Chicano Employees Association filed the lawsuit on behalf of the women saying they were "demanded" when a stripper walked into their boss's office on his birthday, April 12, and stripped down to her underwear to music while 30 employees watched.

Leslie Tohol, a lawyer for the county, said the "striptease" was arranged for Richard Collins, head of the contracts and grants division of the county health services department, by his wife for his 50th birthday.

Dukakis wins Oregon primary

PORTLAND, Oregon, May 18. (Reuters) Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis extended a string of impressive victories over Jesse Jackson in their race for the Democratic presidential nomination, beating the black civil rights activist in Oregon.

With 45 per cent of the ballots counted in Tuesday's primary election, Dukakis had 58 per cent of the vote, compared with 37 per cent for Jackson.

Tennessee Senator Albert Gore and Missouri representative Richard Gephardt each got two per cent of the vote. They had dropped out of the race, but their names were on the ballot.

Vice President George Bush, the expected Republican



Students and relatives of those killed during Kwangju uprising burn an effigy of President Roh. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dissidents call for execution of Roh

KWANGJU, May 18. (UPI) Dissidents and relatives of the victims of a 1980 civil uprising called today for the "execution of those responsible" for crushing the bloody rebellion, including President Roh Tae-Woo and his predecessor.

At an emotional ceremony in a provincial cemetery, about 3,000 people commemorating the May 18, 1980, Kwangju uprising demanded a new investigation of the role played by Roh and former President Chun Doo Hwan, the two most powerful generals at the time of the revolt.

Starting a week of planned anti-government protests, the bereaved relatives burned an effigy representing President Roh and the United States before moving from the cemetery to the centre of Kwangju for more protest marches.

Police in Kwangju, 275 km south of Seoul, and in major cities and college campuses across the country braced for violent protests.

The nine-day revolt in 1980 was sparked by the arrest of Kim Dae Jung and other opposition leaders. Crack military units crushed the rebellion, killing 191 people, according to official statistics. Dissidents say the casualties were much higher.

Kim Dae Jung, now leader of the largest opposition party in the National Assembly, did not appear at the ceremony. But he told the crowd in a taped message that "the Roh Tae-Woo government is the same as the Chun Doo Hwan government."

For the first time since memorial ceremonies began in 1981, police stayed away from the cemetery and the 16-km road leading from the city to the burial site. In previous years, police roadblocks prevented most people from attending the memorial.

Police were ordered on full alert across the country to prevent violent protests, but the government said it would not interfere with peaceful memorials to the victims, a change in policy ordered by President Roh.

Roh, who was inaugurated Feb 25, has promised to "heal the wounds" caused by the uprising. The bloody suppression of the uprising has fuelled anti-government sentiment for eight years.

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Pro-Marcos rally

MANILA, May 18. (Reuters) Philippine police lobbed teargas and baton-charged thousands of rock-throwing demonstrators marching today to demand Manila allow the return of exiled former President Ferdinand Marcos.

Witnesses said helmeted riot police used shields and clubs to break up a rally by pro-Marcos demonstrators after protesters threw rocks.

Earthquake

ATHENS, May 18. (Reuters) A strong earthquake centred in the sea off the island of Kephallonia shook the region today, but caused no damage, the Athens Seismological Institute said.

The quake which measured 5.8 on the Richter scale struck nine miles off the coast of Kephallonia in the Ionian islands west of Athens, it said.

Reagan denies using astrology

WASHINGTON, May 18. (AP) President Ronald Reagan has insisted again the stars play no part in presidential scheduling, but he refused to disavow the practice of astrology.

Reagan said he did not know enough about it to determine whether there was "something to it."

"We made no decisions on it, and we're not binding our lives to this," Reagan told reporters last night in a short question-and-answer session in the White House briefing room.

Reagan reiterated what he has said since the astrology controversy erupted: that no changes were made in his schedule because of his wife's dealings with an astrologer.

But asked if he believed in astrology, the President said, "I don't guide my life by it."

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New health registration system to be effective soon

THE director of the central department of primary health services at the Ministry of Public Health, stated that the new health registration system will be applicable after two months at the Amiri health area. An identical system would follow at Addan and Mubarak health areas respectively.

Dr Matar said the new system incorporates the introduction of a separate health file for each individual based on his civil identity particulars rather than a family file. The system, he said, would be operational in all health areas within six months.

Each person registered at the

Public Authority for Civil Information would be automatically registered in the new health system without the need to visit the ministry. He added that the information on health files would be modified every month, through the PACI.

Training

Files of those deceased and those permanently leaving Kuwait would be cancelled by this procedure. He added that the application of the health insurance system would not require changing this file.

Dr Matar concluded by saying his department would continue the training process to develop

the performance of employees at the health centres. The ministry had developed house-services for patients suffering from chronic diseases instead of staying at hospitals. The service would reduce pressure on hospitals and add to the improvement of the psychological situation of these patients by allowing them to be among their family members.

Cancellation of telephone deposit

THE Undersecretary of the Ministry of Communications, Abdul Aziz Al Ayoub, said the resolution cancelling the KD500 deposit that subscribers working in the private sector pay for telephone services, would be effective in the coming few days — after it has been published in the official gazette. He added that the ministry's intention to cancel this deposit was to increase the number of subscribers by extending this facility.

Consequently, Al Ayoub said, subscribers, henceforth, would pay only KD30 as annual subscription. The cancellation of the deposit would not apply to those opting to avail of the direct overseas-dialling system. All deposits and letters of guarantee given by companies in which subscribers are working or given by local banks will be cancelled, he said.

Unified policy for preventing hijacking

THE Arab Civil Aviation Council has submitted a proposal for a unified policy for preventing the hijacking of airplanes at a recent meeting of the International Aviation Council.

The council stated that the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner was a terrorist act supported by Iran which is a member of the International Aviation Organisation, and called on the IATA to take action against Iran for their involvement in the hijacking.

The council decided at its meeting in Rabat, Morocco last week to prohibit Iranian aircraft from using Arab airspace and from landing at Arab airports. According to Al Seyassah newspaper, international aviation bodies are working to boycott Iranian planes and to ban the sale of planes or spare parts to Iran.



● The Assistant Undersecretary for social care and welfare at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour Latifa Al Rujalb is seen paying a visit to the Social Care Complex and distributing gifts on behalf of the minister on the occasion of Eid. Al Rujalb toured and reviewed the facilities of the inmates at the centres for the handicapped, disabled, and elderly.

Housewives taking up jobs

Maids employed in large numbers

A RECENT report issued by the Follow-up Bureau of the Council of Arab Gulf Ministers of Social Affairs and Labour has shown that the widespread employment of maids in the Gulf is the result of the increase in working housewives, the low cost of having a maid and the failure of housewives to recognise the impact maids have on the family.

The report said that because women were now sharing the financial responsibility of the household by working, they found it necessary to depend on maids. It also stated that the employment of maids allowed

families to enjoy a more luxurious life.

According to the report, children, left in the care of maids for long periods of time, were influenced by the culture and values of the maid. Not only was the behaviour of the child affected but the child's language development was inhibited, the report said.

The majority of maids are Christian, followed by Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu, the report stated, adding that most of the maids come from villages and have limited educational backgrounds.

Islamic projects chief seeks more funds

THE director of the department of Mosques and Islamic Projects, Tariq Al Issa, has called for additional charitable funding, the proceeds of which are utilised to assist Muslims throughout the world and build Islamic centres and facilities.

Continuing, Al Issa stated that the Islamic Heritage Revival Society, so far has built 550 mosques in different Asian countries, 75 Islamic hospitals, 75 water wells in Sudan, Bangladesh, Kenya and Senegal. He added that the society also

undertook educational campaigns aimed at spreading Islamic education, combating illiteracy, anti-Islamic missions and deviant ideologies and undertook a special project which provided preachers in different countries, including 315 Muslim preachers in 22 different parts of the globe.

Science club prepares programmes for summer

AN official source at Kuwait Science Club has said that many programmes are being prepared for the summer holiday, adding that more youths are showing an interest in science activities and are joining the various science clubs.

The source added that many countries are exerting a great deal of effort to enhance the understanding of young people in the areas of scientific research and critical thinking skills.

He said that Kuwait provides all necessary facilities for its youth to conduct and implement scientific research, which is selected according to the requirements of the society and the interests of the individual.

10 years jail for raping maid

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to ten years imprisonment for raping his maid.

According to testimony given in court, the man forced himself on the maid while his wife was working a night shift.

When his wife returned from work at 8 am, the maid told her what had happened.



The Women's Committee at the Kuwait Red Crescent Society visited a number of social welfare centres on the occasion of Eid. Children were presented with toys (above) and the elderly were presented Arabic sweets by society members (below).



Civil defence training

THE director general of the Kuwait Fire Department Colonel Khaled Al Qasbi said a total of 4251 civil defence volunteers would receive training for a period of two months.

He added, there were 13 training centres in different sites in the four governorates of the country which included Shamiya Youth Centre, Ahmadiyah Ibn Sina and Faalaka schools, Salmiya Scouts Centre in Hawalli and Al Roudatun, Om Amer, Rumaith-

iya and Misahn schools and Fatima, and Finas schools in Ahmadi.

The training programme, he said, would cover activities and skills related to debris-lifting, setting concrete structures, digging ditches, setting up barricades, ambulance and fire-fighting, general security services, and would also include protection against noxious gases.

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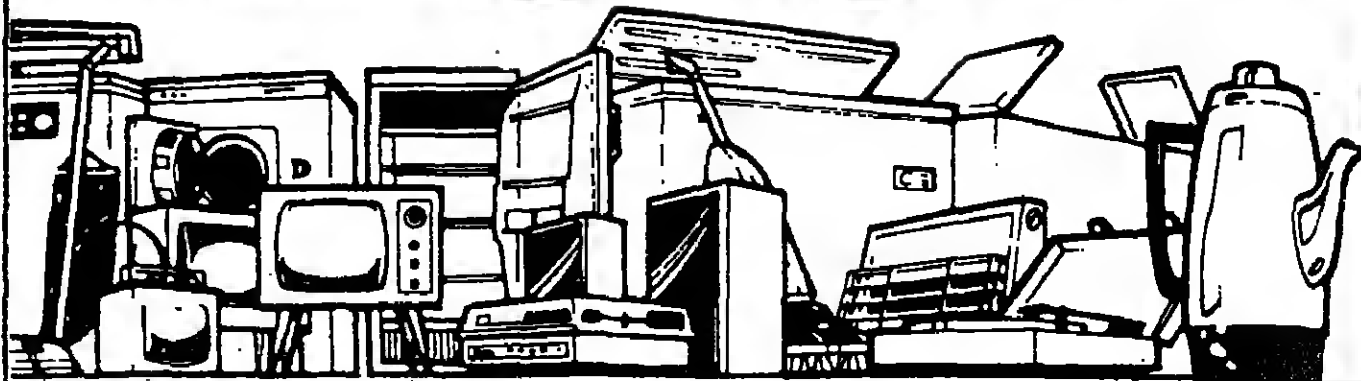
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Information minister praises Kuwaiti press

KUWAIT'S Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah yesterday praised the Kuwaiti press and described it as a "large monument" built with the dedication of honest men.

Sheikh Jaber, in an interview with a Kuwaiti weekly magazine to be published today, urged the mass media in Kuwait to put the country's interest ahead of any other considerations.

The information minister praised the positive role of the Kuwaiti press during the hijacking ordeal of the Kuwaiti airliner Al Jaberiya last month.

Rejections

The Kuwaiti official pointed to the Kuwaiti media attitude that reflects the wise policy of HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, a policy that embodies full loyalty to Kuwait.

Sheikh Jaber reaffirmed Kuwait's rejection of bargaining its national rights and stressed



Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah

the sure desire for peace with every one.

Talking about the Gulf war, Sheikh Jaber called for an immediate halt to the Iraq-Iran eight-year-long war to preserve Islamic and Arab capabilities.

The information minister affirmed Kuwait's strong support for the Palestinian's legitimate rights and for their struggle against Israel under the leadership of PLO.

Kuwait admires and backs the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Sheikh Jaber added.

Regarding the new Kuwaiti press law, the information minister said it aims at two goals: preserving interests of the country and catching up with progress and development which Kuwait currently is experiencing.

Dubai pardons 150 prisoners

ABU DHABI, May 18. (Kuna): On the occasion of the Muslims' Eid Al Fitr, Deputy Premier, Crown Prince of Dubai ordered the release of 150 prisoners.

The released prisoners were serving short term imprisonment due to their perpetration of non-dangerous crimes.

Number of Kuwaitis in Switzerland rises

GENEVA, May 18. (Kuna): The number of Gulf Cooperation Council citizens living in Switzerland declined slightly to 240, as of the end of April, from 251 in 1987 and 265 the year before that, according to the latest government figures.

While the number of Kuwaitis actually increased, to 56 from 51 last year, there was a decline in nationals from the other five GCC states.

Currently resident in Switzerland there were 160 Saudi Arabians (down from 170), nine Bahrainis seven Omanis seven from the UAE and just one Qatari.

Refugees

The figures covered people with permanent residency permits or work permits of at least one year duration, but did not include diplomats, or international civil servants, a government spokesman told Kuna.

Yemen-Kuwait ties lauded

SANAA, May 18. (Kuna): The Kuwaiti Ambassador to the Yemen Arab Republic, Mousa Almousa has lauded the "admirable" Yemeni-Kuwaiti relations based on "true amity."

The envoy said bilateral cooperation, particularly in cultural and economic fields, has been progressing daily to mutual benefit.

Almousa recalled the popular and official Yemeni support to the government of Kuwait through the 16-day hijack ordeal of a Kuwaiti airliner last month.

The ambassador's remarks came in an interview with the Yemeni daily "Althawra" and reported by the national Saba news agency today.

Almousa stressed that the Algerian government had played a positive role in ending the hijack crisis.

Turning to the Iran-Iraq war,

Switzerland has the highest proportion of resident foreigners in all of the European countries, with 986,491 out of a total population of 6.5 million.

The percentage of the population which does not have Swiss nationality increased to 15.1 per cent, from 14.7 per cent a year ago, the highest proportion for over a decade.

The figures did not include some 30,000 approved refugees and another 25,000 who were waiting for their applications for asylum to be processed, the spokeswoman noted.

The part of Switzerland with the highest proportion of resident foreigners was the city of Geneva where, excluding diplomats and workers at the various international organisations, 32 per cent of permanent inhabitants were non-Swiss, she said.

One year after Stark, US has learnt important lessons

BAHRAIN, May 18. (Reuters): The USS Stark lists heavily, thick smoke pouring from gutted superstructure where the Iraqi Exocets penetrated.

Five-year-old John Kiser, hand clasped over his heart, stands solemnly at his mother's side at a ceremony honouring his dead father and 36 other American seamen killed on the frigate.

Images that one year ago flashed around the world, shocked, angered and saddened the United States.

Twelve months on, military analysts say the US Navy has learnt the hard and painful tactical lessons of the Stark tragedy which heralded an immense American build-up in the Gulf and sucked Washington inexorably into the Iran-Iraq war.

Accident
"In a war zone, anything can happen by accident and you should never be relaxed that lesson has been well and truly learnt," said James McCoy, naval analyst at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London.

But the political assessment of Washington's Gulf policy since the attack on the Stark is seen as far less clear-cut.

Diplomats say a series of punitive US strikes against Iran have helped restore Gulf states' trust in Washington after the 1986 "Irangate" debacle and gave nations such as Saudi Arabia the confidence to adopt an aggressive new stance against Tehran.

But diplomatic efforts to halt the 7-1/2-year-old Iran-Iraq conflict have run into the ground amid a rapid arms build-up in the region. The ground war has raged on unabated and many diplomats fear another long, hot summer in the Gulf.

Defect
"The war is as intractable as ever," said one Gulf-based diplomat. "There is simply no end in sight."

The Iraqi Mirage FI fired its French-made missiles at the Stark at 10.10 pm (1910 GMT) on May 17, 1987.

A US foreign relations committee report concluded the Stark's radars did not detect the incoming missiles, its Phalanx defence weapons were not switched on and the ship only learnt it was under attack when a look-out spotted the Exocets 10 seconds before impact.

Iraq said the attack was an accident, that the pilot thought he had locked his missiles onto an Iranian oil tanker in the central Gulf.

Washington accepted that explanation, but whether Iraq intended it or not, the United States could no longer avoid taking an active role in the region.

Defect
Western military analysts say the US Navy has made considerable progress in its attempts to avoid a repeat of the Stark tragedy. Defensive drills have been tightened and new identification procedures worked out with Iraq's Airforce.

The most telling proof came just four weeks ago at the height of a naval clash with Iranian forces in the southern Gulf. The US frigate Jack Williams, a sister ship of the Stark, was able to deflect a barrage of land-based Silkworm missiles, confusing them by firing aluminium chaff in the air.

Higher authority for computer systems proposed

A SPECIALISED technical committee dealing with administrative reform issues, recommended issuance of an Amiri decree for forming a State Higher Authority for Computer Systems affiliated directly to the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs.

The committee suggested the proposed authority comprise in its board of directors, four ministers, and the chairman of the other three authorities, including the central planning and follow-up organisation, central organisation for national information and central technical staff training organisation.

The committee complained that the current organisational structure of the state's computer sector failed in the absence of specialised planning leadership being empowered to set-up necessary plans and define strategy. Additionally, the committee was of the opinion, there was no national integrated base for information, in addition to poor relations between some of the government authorities and the state's computer centre, coupled with an absence of specific criteria for setting-up the information centre in accordance with unified organisational rules.

Suffering
The committee, in its study, commented that the information centres in the country were suffering from a lack of technical staff, unspecialised senior officials, absence of specialised

training, lack of practical experience and inadequate financial incentives.

The working team's study on the current computer system of the government sector stated the number of companies dealing with computer equipment stood at 62 companies with 43 dealing only with one computer centre each, five with two centres each, seven with three centres each, four with four centres each, one with five centres, one with 20 centres, and one with 33 centres.

In view of the number and diversified computer importers, the working team commented that this would adversely affect the smooth functioning between the National Computer Centre and other centres in addition to an absence of technical cooperation between these centres and the National Microfilm Centre, including the unavailability of providing necessary training courses.

Study
Additionally, the working team noted, that about 67 per cent of computer units were purchased or hired and in light of local market limitations—some companies would eventually be liquidated. Annual costs for 18 centres were estimated at KD13 million. These included costs of purchased equipment, maintenance, and consulting bureau charges. The team was hampered in conducting feasibility studies for some centres due to lack of

feed-back.
The study stated the National Computer Centre Communication Network consisted of 108 lines distributed among 42 government authorities, adding that only 12 authorities used systems compatible with the national centre system. This, the team believed would not serve the national information base.

Continuing, the study stated that out of 45 government authorities, only 14 authorities coordinated with the national centre in the field of ready programmes (i.e. 31 per cent)—meaning 69 per cent were purchasing or hiring ready programmes without coordinating with the centre. This was, in spite of the fact, that these programmes were freely available at the national centre. It added, that sets of ready programmes available in the country amounted to 263 with 224 available at the national centre.

In conclusion, the study cited the coordination level between the national centre and the other authorities to be 50 per cent only and called for enhancing coordination between the national centre and other information sources which would be cost effective. The study recommended improvement of communication network among centres, abiding by a unified plan, and providing necessary training and refresher courses.

Algeria-Morocco resumption of ties lauded

ALGIERS, May 18. (Kuna): President Chadli Benjedid yesterday evening received a phone call from King Fahd Bin Abdel Aziz.

During the talks, the Saudi sovereign renewed his congratulations to the head of state for the resumption of diplomatic relations between Algeria and Morocco, the Algerian news agency APS reported today.

King Fahd expressed satisfaction about this decision which augurs "a new era of permanent brotherhood and cooperation between the two countries."

In the same context, King Fahd sent a message to President Chadli Benjedid in which he said that "this decision proves that cordiality and cohesion have always prevailed in relations between peoples of our nation."

Saudi efforts at reconciliation

KING Fahd of Saudi Arabia is currently launching intensive efforts to reconcile Syria and Libya with Egypt, a Kuwaiti daily yesterday said.

The newspaper, in a dispatch from Cairo, quoted top-level sources as saying that the Saudi efforts are aimed at bringing to terms the three Arab countries prior to the upcoming Arab summit in Algiers early next June.

According to the sources, King Fahd will review, during his visit to Cairo, with President Hosni Mubarak the outcome of his efforts exerted with the goal of arranging a mini Arab summit for the leaders of Syria, Libya and Egypt.

Death for murder

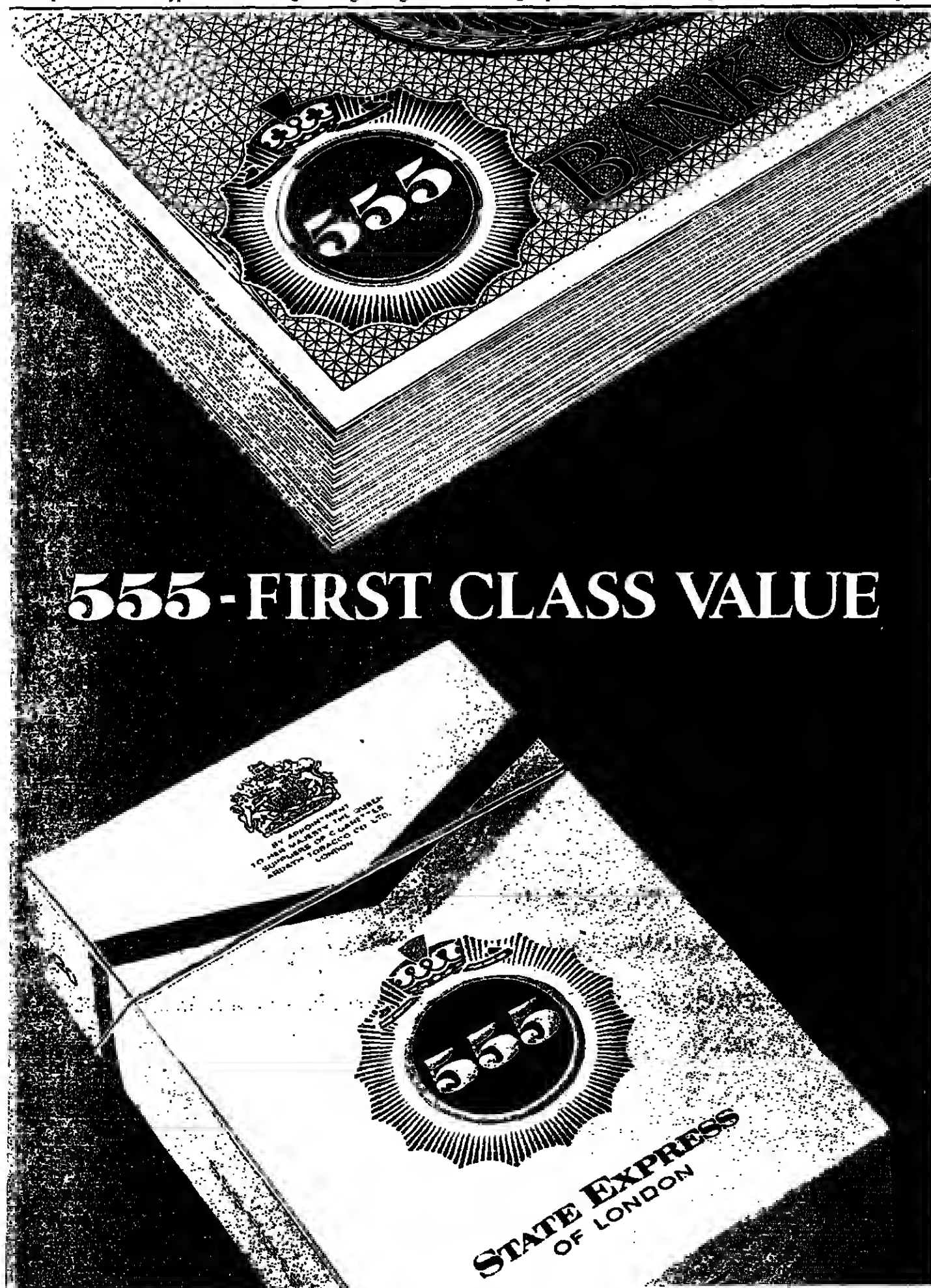
A MAN has been sentenced to death by Kuwait's Criminal Court for the premeditated murder of his uncle.

The man, identified as A.A., claimed that his uncle planned to turn him over to members of a tribe that wanted to kill him. While the man and his two uncles were living in tents near the Iraq-Kuwait border, the man slipped into his uncle's tent and fired two bullets into his uncle's head.

The man admitted in court that his uncle had planned to turn him over to a tribe which intended to kill him, so he killed his uncle.

The verdict was upheld by both the courts of Higher Appeal and Cassation.

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EVENTS



Table Talk

BY DINAH

THE tiniest coffee shop in Kuwait must be Al Shallah restaurant at the Hotel Pullman. Situated at the end of Isqal Street, at the junction of Cairo Street and Baghdad Street, the Pullman is a small but elegantly designed hotel. Al Shallah is tastefully decorated in salmon pink and emerald green with attractive sketches of old Kuwait. With marble flooring and careful use of mirrors, Al Shallah has a cool, light air. The seating is comfortable and the size of the coffee shop makes it a cosy, intimate place to enjoy a meal.

The a la carte menu in French and English offers a small but appetizing range of soups, starters, fish and grilled meat dishes. We began the meal with one of the special Ramadan drinks which were available —

Small but sweet

Khamrideen, a refreshing, soothing mixture of pureed apricots.

For the appetizer my guest chose the soup of the day, a delicately flavoured home-made cream of mushroom soup. This, like all the other dishes we were served, was a generous, filling portion. I chose the salad de crabes avec pampelmousse, a delicate salad of crab on a bed of finely shredded, crisp lettuce, grated carrots, cucumber and capers with segments of fresh grapefruit providing a sharp contrast. Delicious, fresh, hot rolls and butter accompanied the starters perfectly.

Flavour

My guest decided on brochettes de crevettes avec aioli for the next course. These large, succulent Gulf prawns had been cooked on a charcoal grill and served with subtly flavoured saffron rice and a selection of tender vegetables sautéed in butter. The only disappointment was the aioli sauce which contained too much mustard. My main course of Sole meuniere was cooked to mouthwatering perfection and similarly garnished with saffron rice, courgettes, mushrooms, cauliflower and carrots.

Desserts at Al Shallah are also ordered a la carte. The assortments de glace et sorbets consisted of a pleasant mixture of three contrasting ices — a tart lemon sorbet, a bland vanilla and a smooth chocolate ice-cream topped with crunch flaked almonds. The pear tart with almonds was a freshly made pie of pears baked in a light batter and topped with almonds. It would probably have been more appetizing if it had been served with cream.

The bill for the meal including one cappuccino coffee came to KD 10.500. Small restaurants are obviously unable to offer the wide range of dishes that the larger coffee shops can provide, but there are many advantages in eating at a place the size of Al Shallah. The food is individually cooked for you and presented with care. One receives personal service from staff who are attentive and very eager to please. You feel welcome and cosseted rather than just another guest at a numbered table.

RESTAURANT: Al Shallah
TYPE: Coffee Shop of the Hotel Pullman
MEAL: Three course a la carte dinner
PRICE: KD 10.500 (for two)
Star rating: out of five:
FOOD: ****
SERVICE: ****
ATMOSPHERE: ***
VALUE FOR MONEY: ***

Sridevi, Anil win Indra awards

By Bombay Correspondent

BOMBAY: May 18: Anil Kapoor has been named Best Actor and Sridevi Best Actress by the Humlog Foundation for the Indra Gandhi awards, 1987-88. This was announced yesterday by Foundation Chairperson Chandrika Konia, who is also Maharashtra's Minister of State for Education.

Industrialist Rahul Bajaj and actors Ashok Kumar and Amjad Khan also won awards. Bajaj won the Best Industrialist Award.

Amjad Khan got the Best



Anil Kapoor



Sridevi
Villain award and Ashok Kumar the Veteran Actor award. Kalyanji-Anandji got the award for music.



Ashok Kumar

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 8.30 Holy Quran
- 8.50 Tao Tao: cartoons
- 10.00 Magic Show
- 10.30 The Saint: featuring Roger Moore. A man posing as Templar commits a crime.
- 11.10 Noor Al Huda: "Al Shihadallah", starring: Hussein Abdeen, Amina Rizk, Abu Bakr Ezzat, Laila Taher.
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 Eid Interview: Part Four.
- 2.30 Zahrat Al Saif: historical serial, starring Abdullah Ghaith, Hussein Fahmi
- 3.35 Cartoons
- 4.00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial: last episode, starring Khalid Al Ohaide, Maryam Ghaibon, Million Janiyah.
- 4.45 Arabic film, featuring Naama Akcf, Shukri Sarhan, Samira Ahmed, Mahmoud Al Malaji.
- 6.15 Al Manahil: children's serial
- 6.45 Songs and Music
- 7.15 The Animal World: documentary
- 7.45 Bahath An Al Saadah: weekly Arabic serial, featuring Samir Ghanem, Hussein Mustafa.
- 8.30 With Islam: prepared and presented by Dr Khalid Al Madkhour.
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Songs and Music
- 10.30 Darbat Moalim: Arabic film, starring Noor Al Sharif, Kamal Shinnawi, Liala Alwi, Salah Qahil.
- 12.15 Late Night Variety Show presented by Amina Al Sharah.
- 1.15 News Summary/Imask/ Holy Quran/ Closedown



Shirley MacLaine stars in Thursday's film 'Trouble with Harry' on KTV 2 at 10.30 pm.

- 8.25 Short Stories: "The First Night", starring: Abdul Hadi Anwar, Jamal Zaghloul, Fatima Faed.
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Wrestling
- 10.50 Imraat Mukhtalifah: Arabic play, featuring Ghanem Saleh, Suad Abdullah, Ahmad Saleh, Muna Essa, Dawood Hussein.
- 11.45 News Summary
- 11.50 World News via Satellite/ Holy Quran/ Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Centurions: cartoons
- 6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club
- 7.00 Rags to Riches: this series about a bunch of girls adopted by a millionaire returns. In tonight's episode, one of the girls invites a friend to a party.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 TV Bloopers and Practical Jokes
- 9.00 Spenser for Hire: Spenser helps a student involved with a dangerous gang.
- 10.00 The Bill Cosh Show: Theo is in deep trouble over a TV show.
- 10.30 Late Night Movie: "Trouble with Harry". Bothered by a corpse, causes all sorts of problems for peaceful neighbours in New England community. Starring: Shirley MacLaine, John Forsythe, Edmund Gwenn. Duration: 99 minutes.
- 12.30 News Summary

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Boushahri Gallery
Watercolour paintings by Yugoslav artist Jovica Prodanovic will be exhibited at the Boushahri Gallery, Salem Al Mubarak St. Salmiya, from May 23, 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.40 pm.

CINEMA

British Council
The feature film "A Letter to Brezhnev" will be shown on May 21 and 22, 6.30 pm, in the British Council gallery, Mansouriya. Rooted firmly in a for-bidding real Liverpool, Elaine and Teresa lead us into a world inhabited by a generation of young people either unemployed or trapped in menial jobs with no prospects for advancement. Admission free, but please make reservations. Tel: 2515512.

THEATRE

Kuwait Singers
"Songs for a Summer Evening" is the title of a concert by the Singers. It will be held on May 31 and June 1 at the UAS, Salwa. Tickets — KD2. For reservations ring 3940770 ext. 57: 5384873; 5740627 (answering service).

I Got Rhythm
A musical show featuring Reem Yousef Kelani will be presented in the Grand Ballroom, Regency Palace Hotel, on June 2, Thursday. Tickets — KD10 including dinner. Produced and directed by Glenis Muckle and Kerry Langley. All proceeds will be donated to the British charity Medical Aid for Palestinians to help Dr Pauline Cutting, OBE, and her team, to provide medical care for refugees. For reservations call: 3718143; 5387755; 2627003; 5330934.



Executive Chef Ibrahim Nagi has prepared gourmet meals for guests at the Sheraton Hotel. Above: Le Tarbouche's buffet featuring Arabic and Kuwaiti specialities.

Konkani drama
The Colva Dramatic Troupe will present a Konkani drama entitled "Mujem Dusrem Ghe" on May 20, 8 pm, at the Indian Arts Circle, Funtaltes. The play has been written by Rosary Fernandes. Performers include Mendes Brothers, Marcus Vaz, Xavier Gomes, Frank and Philip. For tickets contact Colva committee members. KLT

K.L.T., Ahmadi, will present Brigadoon, a musical, on June 1, 7.30 pm, gala night. Further performances are at 8.15 pm on June 7, 8, and 9 and at 5.30 pm on June 2, 3. Tickets KD3. Children — KD2. For reservations ring 3983724.

SOCIAL

Flassik cooking class
The monthly Flassik cooking class will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Wednesday, May 25, 4 pm. For details call Rory — 2530000 F/O Office.

Danish meeting
Daniella invites all Danish ladies to a coffee morning on Sunday, May 22, at 10 am. Arabic cooking will be demonstrated. For details and registration call: 1902460 before Friday, May 20.

Dutch reception
The Netherlands ambassador and Mrs J.F.R.M. Veling invite all Dutch nationals in Kuwait to a reception on the occasion of the Queen's birthday at the residence on Thursday, May 24, from 6.00 to 8.30 pm.

Jumble sale
St Paul's jumble sale will be held in the Anglo-American School Hall, Ahmadi, from 2.30 pm on Friday, May 27. Clothes, shoes, toys, books, electrical and household items will be offered at bargain prices. All are welcome.

Kuwait Caledonians
"Ceilidh" will be held on May 26, Thursday, at the Holiday Inn Hotel: 7.30 pm for 8 pm. Entertainer from Scotland will be Bill Barclay. For reservations phone: 5610673 or 5335082.

HOTELS

At the Meridien
Special Eid buffet for lunch and dinner in La Brasserie on Thursday and Friday, Thursday evening entertainment by Al Kayed duo; on Friday Nasser Abdul Rahman will serenade. Al Fing offers authentic Oriental music during the holidays.

At the Sheraton
EID PROGRAMME: Le Tarbouche: lunch and dinner buffet, plus Arab world specialities on Thursday evening.

Al-Hamra Tarbouche on the roof every Sunday seafood night buffet every Wednesday and brunch buffet every Friday.

Ricardo and Hunt Room: normal operations for both lunch and dinner.

BBQ: BBQ seasons around the pool during Eid holidays, followed by BBQ every Wednesday.

At the Holiday Inn
The Shabrazed barbecue will be held every Wednesday by the poolside, featuring barbecue, bazaar, games and videos; raffle and give-aways.

The Best of British will be held from May 22 to May 27 featuring the Caledonian pipers and dancers. Sample fish 'n' chips, English cream tea and hrowse in the British bazaar. Jazz music in the Lobby Cafe and Andalus.

SPORTS

Filipino marathon
The Filipino marathon batokang buto '88: May 18 (5 km) and May 20 (10 km). This event is open to all Filipinos — individuals or teams. For details call Bong Mclencio — Louie Alcaraz 4877793.

Bowling Palero '88
Final meeting on Friday, May 20, 7 pm, at 300 Club, Silver Towers, Sbarq. Programme: lots draw; games schedule; fees payment; distribution of revised rules. Games start on Thursday, May 26, 6 pm for men's division. For women's division, the games are on May 27, 8.30 pm.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Kuwait's Holiday Inn hotel launched their barbecue season yesterday. Called the Shabrazed Barbecue (above) it will be held around the pool every Wednesday. Highlights are a bazaar, raffle and plenty of surprises.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus Arabic Eid Show	Al Fahheel Deedar (Indian)	Ahmadi Drive-In Aa'd Li yantaqam (Arabic)
Al Salmiya English Film	Al Jahra Wild Force	FRIDAY
Al Hanra Rabocop	Granada Commando Squad	Al Jahra
Drive-In Qaher Al Fursan (Arabic)	Salaibikhat Eyes of the Condor	Al Markaziya (Arabic)
Al Firdous Paap Ki Duniya (Hindi)	Al Jleeb Thoovana Thumbikal (Malayalam)	Granada
Fahheel Open-Air Falak (Hindi)		Last Hunter
		Salaibikhat
		Police Academy IV
		Al Jleeb
		Jungle Ki Beti (Hindi)

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.22 am
Zuhr	11.44
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.36
Isha	8.04
FRIDAY	
Fajr	3.22 am
Friday Prayer	11.44
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.37
Isha	8.05

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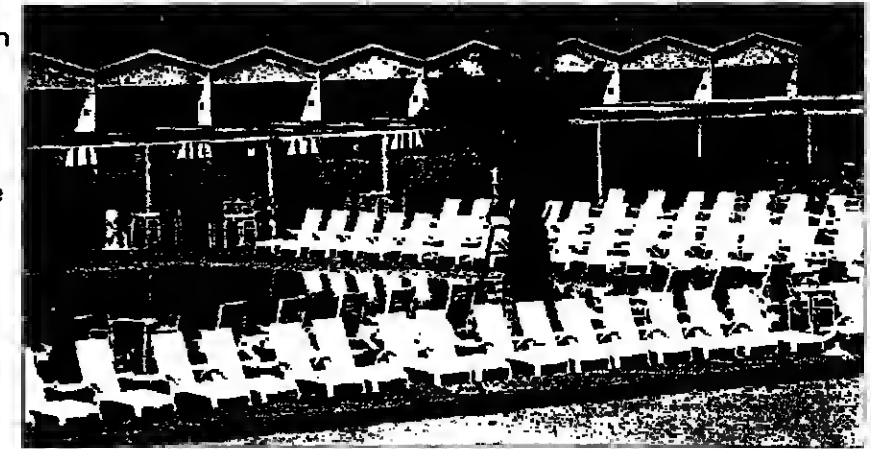
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

DEATH and labour are things of necessity and not of choice — Simone Weil, French philosopher-poet-writer (1910-1943).

Israel warms up for election

By Karin Laub

TEL AVIV, (AP) An advertising agency for Shimon Peres' Labour Party, image-makers showed off a new brochure picturing a checkered Arab head-dress — a symbol of Palestinian nationalism — with a black slash across it.

On the same day, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of the rival Likud bloc worked a crowd of Jewish settlers in the West Bank, telling them the Israeli-occupied land was "thirsty for Jewish settlements."

The campaign for Israel's November general elections is getting into gear. And the main battleground for the left-of-centre Labour Party and the rightist Likud is the Arab-Israeli conflict, brought to a boiling point by the Palestinian uprising.

Both Shamir and Peres have told voters the outcome of the balloting will be crucial for the survival of Israel. They both promise to protect Israel from the tide of Palestinian nationalism, but their policies and approaches differ.

Warned

Peres, Foreign Minister in a strange bedfellows coalition with Shamir, has warned that Likud's refusal to withdraw from any part of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip will cost Israel its Jewish majority and democratic values.

Shamir has charged that Labour's willingness to exchange some land for peace will deliver Israel into the hands of its Arab enemies.

"It's the first time since the 1973 (Middle East) war that the peace process is a major issue in an election campaign," said political scientist Peter Medding of Hebrew University.

Pollsters say Labour is in a more difficult spot, noting that many voters have adopted more hard-line views because they feel threatened by the violent Arab uprising in which at least 190 Palestinians and two Israelis have died since Dec 9.

A survey of 1,200 Jewish voters at the end of March showed Labour has lost 3 per cent to 4 per cent to Likud since December, with Labour now at 35 per cent of the vote and Likud at 30 per cent, said pollster Hansch Smith.

The rest of the vote is divided

among more than a dozen smaller parties that are potential coalition partners for either Labour or Likud.

If elections were held tomorrow, Smith said, the two camps each would get roughly the same number of seats — a repeat of the stalemate in the 1984 elections that forced Labour and Likud into shared rule.

Their coalition, always fragile, has all but disintegrated since the uprising. But neither Labour nor Likud has formally ruled out joining another mixed government in case of a stalemate.

Labour's campaign, run under the slogan "Move with strength and brains," is aimed at winning right-of-centre voters without alienating the left.

As a first step, strategists have softened the Peres peace plan by assuring voters they will have a final say before concessions are made to the Palestinians.

Plebiscite

"We will emphasise the idea that there will be a plebiscite before any major move, such as returning territory," said Ruth Ofir of the Keshet Bar-Lev advertising agency hired by Labour.

Labour is willing to give up some territory in the West Bank and Gaza, with party leaders hinting they would mainly be areas with a high Arab population but offering no specifics.

Labour's peace programme also contains a list of "No's," such as "No" to a Palestinian state, "No" to talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, "No" to a return to the 1967 borders.

The new brochure with its crossed-out Arab head-dress is meant to illustrate the point. It also pictures an Israeli soldier guarding the Jordan River, which Labour says will remain Israel's security border.

Labour has also emphasised it will not surrender existing Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza or Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem.

Political scientist Yitzhak Galnoor of Hebrew University predicted the strategy would backfire.

"They are going to fall between the chairs and lose on both sides," said Galnoor. "The idea that you can compete with the hardliners of the Likud proved unsuccessful in the campaigns of 1977, 1981 and 1984."

Hungary's Communist Party conference

Activists press for reforms

By Gábor C. Steichen

BUDAPEST, Hungary, (AP) — Unofficial political activists are pressing for a bigger voice in Hungary's affairs as the increasingly divided communist leadership prepares to debate the party's role in society.

More than 200 activists and dissidents jammed into the cramped rear hall of a Budapest restaurant recently to draft a document demanding more political reforms.

"We want to show that there are other solutions," said Janos Kis, a leading spokesman for the "Network of Free Initiatives," a newly-formed confederation of unofficial political, social and environmental activist groups.

Kis, who was expelled from Hungary's Communist Party in the 1970s for "revisionist" writings, said distribution of the group's alternative document is planned to coincide with a key Communist Party conference opening May 20.

"We need a new constitution guaranteeing civil and political rights. We want new legal restrictions on the power of the party," Kis said.

Debate

Debate at the party conference is expected to pit reformists in the party leadership against hardliners worried about mounting pressure from independent political groups seeking official recognition and genuine pluralism in Hungary's one-party system.

Party officials say the conference could also determine the future of party leader Janos Kadar, who is increasingly blamed for the country's economic problems and for resisting political reforms.

In increasing numbers, small independent groups are clamouring for more representation in Hungarian society.

"Without guaranteed freedoms and political reform, economic solutions will fail," said Miklos Haraszti, a prominent dissident writer.

In addition to the Network of Free Initiatives, academic job-holders have joined together to form an independent trade union, students are calling for a youth organisation free of party control and journalists have applied for permission to create a glasnost club.

"The party is simply no longer able to correct itself," said a Budapest journalist involved in efforts to gain government approval for the club.

"We need to break down the rigid structures the party now relies on," said the journalist, who spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

When peace finally returns

Afghanistan will require massive reconstruction

By Bryan Wilder

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, (AP) — When peace finally returns to the mountains and deserts of Afghanistan, the war-ravaged country will require one of the most massive reconstruction efforts since World War II.

The first stage will be the relocation of some 3 million Afghan refugees from Pakistan and an additional 2 million from Iran. Western observers estimate about 4 million more Afghans are refugees inside their own country.

Anthony Land, head of the Peshawar, Pakistan, sub-office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said that in terms of numbers of people and time, it will be the largest human migration in the organisation's history.

"There will need to be a massive rehabilitation effort," Land said.

Afghanistan's communist government and Muslim insur-

gents have been at war for 10 years, the last eight years with Soviet military involvement.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, chairman of the seven-party guerrilla alliance based in Pakistan, estimated that 60 per cent of the houses in Afghanistan have been destroyed along with an equal percentage of arable land.

Ruins

"The whole country is in ruins," said the bearded, turbaned mujahedeen leader. "Canals and irrigation systems are badly damaged or destroyed."

Hekmatyar said the Afghans' ability to restore the irrigation systems will be crucial to avoid mass starvation once the refugees return.

But some refugees interviewed in the camps of Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province said they won't venture back until all Soviets are gone and the Marxist Kabul government has fallen.

"I will go first and see what is left of my home and my farm," said Isayal Ghairab, 34, who

lives with his wife, two daughters and son in a sun-baked camp named Munda No. 6.

He said he will not go back for the rest of his family until he is certain he can feed and house them.

UN and Pakistani officials agree they won't see the exodus begin until after next spring.

"We hope the process can be completed within 18 months," said a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman. He said Pakistan was not contemplating forcing the refugees out, although their upkeep costs the country an estimated \$1 million a day.

Reconstruction

UN agencies and several countries have started making plans for Afghanistan's reconstruction, but they say it is too early to gauge the project's exact size or expense.

"We surely want to help, and we're playing with (monetary) figures, but anything can happen in the next few months," said Arnold Raphael, US ambassador

to Pakistan.

One of the first — and most dangerous — tasks will be clearing mines planted or scattered by Soviet-Afghan aircraft all over the countryside.

US diplomats estimate there may be 3 million of them. The mujahedeen puts the number at 5.5 million.

Then comes what officials predict will be a massive infusion of emergency food and shelter, medical supplies, seeds and farm implements.

Cost

Some officials believe that once-fruitful fields, left fallow under years of blazing sun, will be too hard to be worked by the Afghans' traditional wooden ploughs.

Few officials care to venture what all this will cost but the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Jean-Pierre Hocke, recently mentioned a figure from his Geneva headquarters of \$300 million. Western diplomats in Islamabad have guessed at

figures up to \$1.5 billion.

The course of the war during and after the Soviet withdrawal, began May 15, may provide some of the answers.

"We have to be prepared for any eventuality," Land said. "The problem is, we don't know which eventuality to prepare for."

The Kabul government, in a booklet commemorating the 10th anniversary of the 1978 military coup that brought them to power, said: "The enemies of peace and Afghans' welfare (a code word for the guerrillas) destroyed 2,000 schools, 131 hospitals and two-thirds of transport roads."

Squabble

However, reliable reports from inside Afghanistan indicate most of that damage was wrought by saturation bombings by Soviet and Afghan aircraft that they destroyed entire villages that they suspected of housing mujahedeen.

A squabble has already

broken out over which government the reconstruction aid should be channelled through. The existing Kabul government, Islamabad or the guerrillas, who are creating a government of their own.

"Looking at Afghanistan, we see no efforts of any kind from the other side for preparations to receive refugees," said the Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Kabul's own Foreign Ministry spokesman responded the following day with his own broadcast by the official Radio Kabul.

"These groundless allegations, which are being made in order to mislead public opinion, are far from the truth and are counted as another design for creating obstacles in the way of the return of the refugees..." the radio quoted him as saying.

He said the measures taken were "political, social and economic," but he gave no details.



GEMINI (MAY 21 TO JUNE 21): A TROUBLING SITUATION AT THE OFFICE WILL REQUIRE YOUR FULL ATTENTION. IMPORTANT CAREER DECISION PENDING.

Another side of Britain's unemployment story

By Cotten Timberlake

LUTON, England, (AP) — Heart-breaking stories abound in Britain of long-term unemployed men and women trapped in a downward spiral of poverty and self-doubt.

But, at the same time, a new phenomenon has emerged: vacant jobs.

Many businessmen are desperate to find workers for a large number of jobs that go unfilled for a myriad of reasons.

Britain's buoyant economy is creating new jobs very quickly, and they require new skills. Workers left jobless by the decline of the old manufacturing industries cannot keep up. Hence, the gap — 2.5 million unemployed, but 700,000 job vacancies.

"It totally amazes most people because they're constantly bombarded with articles about unemployment," said Bill Horsman, managing director of 58-year-old Hatmakers W. Wright and Son Ltd. in Luton, a city 28 miles (45 kms) south-west of London which suffers from this problem.

Train

The Trades Union Congress, Britain's umbrella labour organization, blames industry for failing to train workers. But it stresses that training should be voluntary and is hostile to any government move that smacks of compulsion.

Employers admit companies haven't trained or retrained enough workers but they also accuse Britain's educational system of failing to equip students with skills.

Schools counter that while this

was true in the past, they are more responsive today.

Adding to the problem are the economic disparities among Britain's regions, which discourage job seekers from relocating because living in one place, mainly the southeast, can cost so much more than in another.

Britain also suffers from an anti-industry bias that causes young people to reject jobs which would be coveted in other parts of the world.

School graduates, whose numbers are shrinking because of lower birth rates, shy away from many jobs such as the hat trade, said Brian Sykes, manager of an employers' self-help group called the Bedfordshire Network.

Unfilled

While unemployment stood at 9 per cent in March, the number of unfilled jobs was up 15 per cent in March from a year ago, according to the Department of Employment.

Luton, with a population of 150,000, had 1,199 vacancies and 7,641 unemployed people, or an estimated 8 per cent of the workforce.

Founded on the hat trade, it now is primarily a modern manufacturing centre that is prosperous and clean.

"You have this peculiar situation where you have a relatively high unemployment rate, which coexists with quite a large number of unfilled jobs, partly because of the skills shortage," said Sykes.

"There is a tremendous shortage of skills," emphasised Philip Hoskins, chief executive of Luton's Chamber of Commerce. For Horsman, the batsman, it means: "You can't take on new

business because you can't fulfil the orders."

The traditional industries, such as Horsman's, are vulnerable because they are having troubles replacing their aging workforces.

Shortage

The shortage not only makes companies less productive, but also forces them to pay more to attract employees. That cuts into profits and can fuel inflation.

Luton, in particular, suffers from its proximity to London, which pushes up house prices. That discourages people from the less expensive north from moving.

On top of that, Britons traditionally have had a certain reputation:

"People's impression has been that Britons have not been sufficiently ambitious," Sykes said.

Welfare in Britain — which doesn't have a national minimum wage — in some cases can discourage someone from seeking work, he added.

"Very often, a job pays no more (than welfare) so in some cases, that might provide a disincentive," Sykes said.

But things are looking up.

Local schools have become much more responsive to employers' needs in recent years and are teaching skills the job markets need, employers agree. Commercial training providers, meanwhile, have stepped in to fill the gap and profit from it.

The Conservative government's Manpower Services Commission has launched various schemes under which it and employers jointly pay employees during training.

Utopian dream

SIR: It was interesting to read Zاهد Matar's Day by Day (AT, May 5-6). Zاهد Matar has on many occasions published his views favouring free travel by the expatriates between the Gulf states but surprises me that knowing fully well that no responsible government official, either in Kuwait or in GCC state ever cares for your comments you still write about it.

Though I know that your vision extends far beyond the 20th century, the Gulf states have to do a lot for expatriates especially Asian and of the Indian sub-continent as these are the most exploited and discriminated people in the Gulf.

With the exception of a handful who have struck it rich, the majority of these individuals have given their blood, sweat and tears towards the fast and tremendous "progress" which these Gulf countries claim they have made. But what kind of progress are we talking about? For the last two decades and over, these countries have exploited these poor people, who go about their jobs like slaves, working sometimes 12 hours a day, with no pay for months, no recreation facilities, no proper accommodation or social enjoyment.

The Gulf states have spent billions on acquiring everything bigger and better and yet have not spent even a single fil to know how these people live. On the contrary, sizeable funds have been spent to study what negative influences they have had on the Gulf nation.

Zاهد Matar is also exploiting these people in a different way. Knowing that the majority of Arab Times readers are expats, Zاهد Matar occasionally drums up a certain idea trying to give them the false impression that he is on

their side, so they continue buying this expensive newspaper. Zاهد Matar did not even excuse himself for increasing its cost by 50 per cent.

Free travel to and from other GCC states is but an Utopian dream for expats, who, according to various studies, are carriers of all kinds of disease; do not live up to the high standards; come from lands of poverty and squalor; are a bad influence upon Arab children, etc., and thus should not be allowed to have such facilities.

I hope, from now on, you will not publish these fantasies in the name of expats. Honestly, it hurts me to hurt your national pride but you always hurt mine!

Lauzere Feres, Safat.

Mystical power!

SIR: Keith Wells' thought-provoking article (A.T. 11/5/83) on psychic conjunctions has triggered my latent powers.

It was when reading the Arab Times articles on Sophia Loren, Bermuda Triangle, Freedom of Expression in Turkey and Sean Connery that, suddenly, I had the strangest feeling that I had read these articles in other newspapers. I realised immediately that far from being coincidence or Deja vu, this was proof of a pre-ordained life force at work which is guiding me along psychic rails. This mystical power of pre-d destiny, I have named psychidation.

I must tell the Arab Times readers that now that I have accepted the existence of psychidation, after years of agnosticism, my life has been transformed. I realise that this Grand Plan encompasses everything and that every day occurrences which, in the past, I had put down to simple coincidence can now be explained in terms of



pre-destiny. An example of this "happened" only last night when I bumped into a table, spilling coffee all over my wife's papers. Amazingly, we both uttered the same recognitive impression at the same time! Astonishing isn't it? May the Force be with you.

Ian A. Gaynor, Jabryia.

Penalise Air-India

SIR: The Civil Aviation authority has declared illegal the fare hike by Air-India and two other airlines.

Air-India was the main airline which started the trouble, creating havoc among the passengers. When people requested Air-India to revoke its decision, it turned down their pleas.

Air-India violated Kuwait Civil Aviation law. Strict action must be taken against it and heavy fines imposed so that it is discouraged to act against the will of the people.

Alex Pinto, Kuwait.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.



A SOVIET woman spreads asphalt as sidewalks are repaved in front of Spasso House, a US Embassy residence, in Moscow yesterday. President Reagan and his wife, Nancy, will stay at Spasso House during the US-Soviet summit which will be held from May 29 to June 2 in Moscow. (Reuter wirephoto)



INHABITANTS of Port Vila repair on Tuesday smashed windows of some shops looted by rioters in the capital of Vanuatu on Monday. Shops and offices remained closed after rioting involving about 1,000 villagers calling for land ownership reform. One person was killed and 10 others slightly injured during clashes with police. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE 11th Soviet combat troops and vehicles to arrive back in the Soviet Union cross the Friendship Bridge over the Amu Darya River in Termez yesterday. The river marks the border between the USSR and Afghanistan. (Reuter wirephoto)



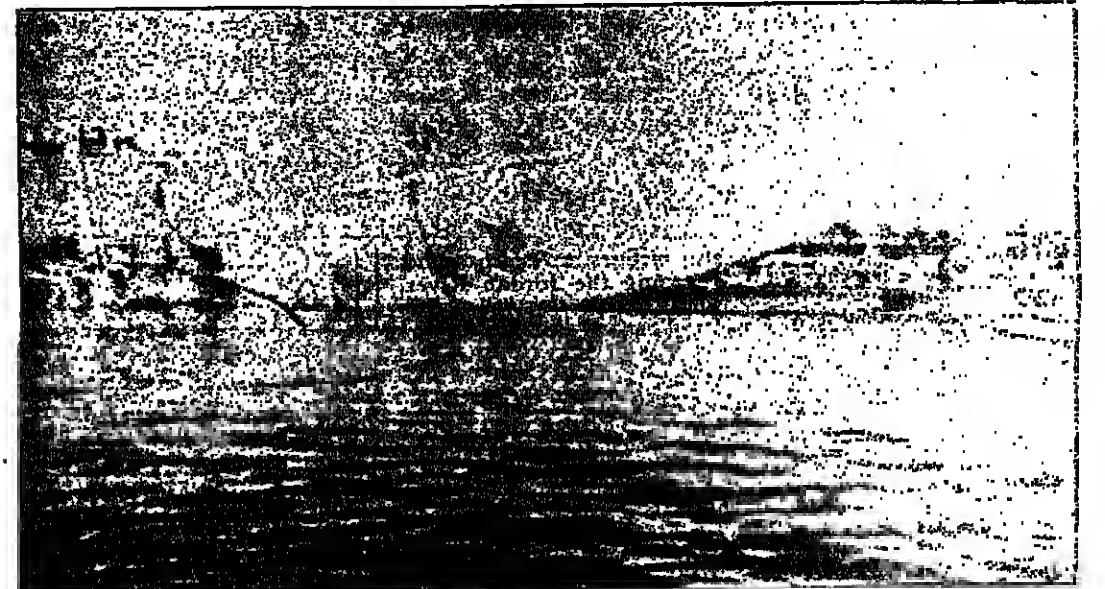
DEMOCRATIC presidential candidate Jesse Jackson greets handicapped men, women and children at the Los Angeles City College on Tuesday before addressing the group on rights of the disabled. Jackson told the gathering that the only disabled people he knew were in the White House. (Reuter wirephoto)



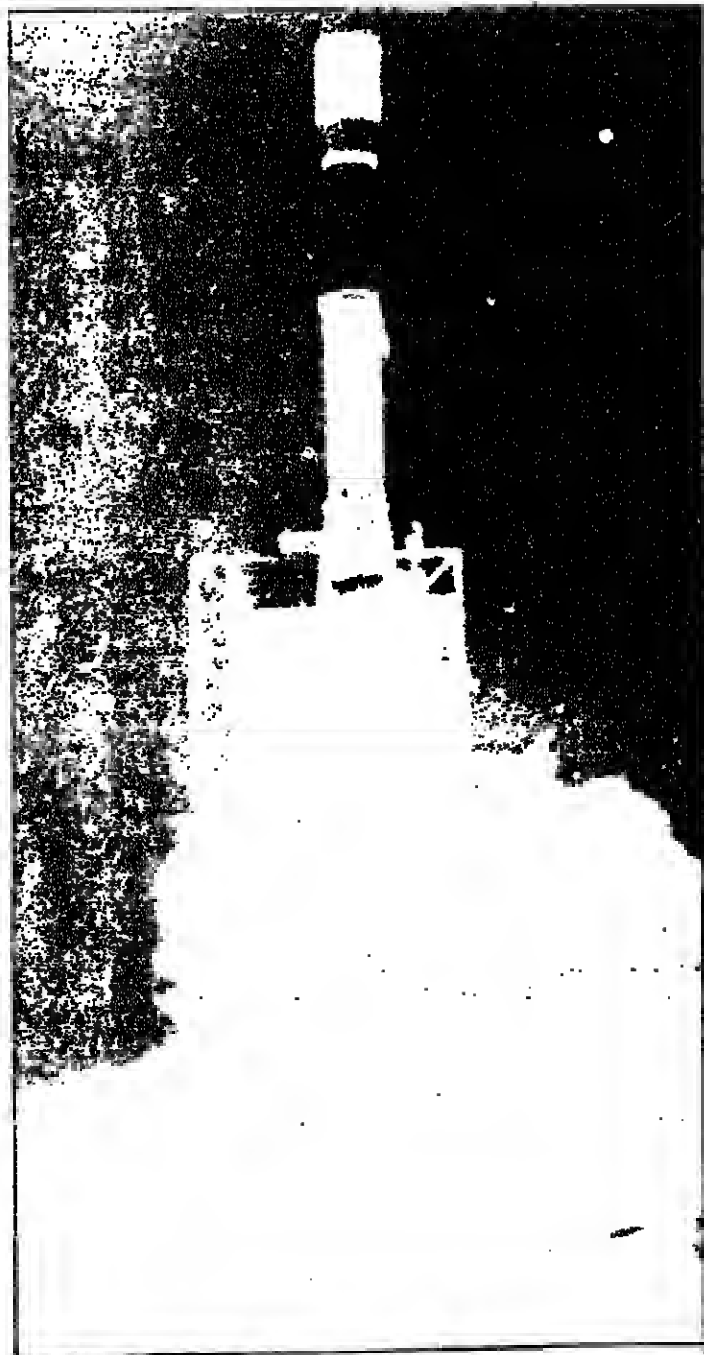
WHITE HOUSE spokesman Marlin Fitzwater (left) and Chief of Staff Howard Baker (centre) look on as President Reagan responds to a question about former chief of staff Donald Regan and the revelation about astrology in the White House during a press conference on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



BLACK smoke rises from the 4,870-tonne Soviet passenger ship Priamurye in Osaka port early yesterday after a fire broke out aboard the vessel carrying 129 crew and 295 passengers. Nine persons have been killed and 39 injured. (Reuter wirephoto)



ONE of the 40-foot catamarans used by America's Cup skipper Dennis Conner capsized on Sunday on a training cruise in the San Diego Bay. It took about six hours to get the yacht upright. The boat was being used to familiarise Conner with the larger catamarans he will use to defend the America's Cup this September. (Reuter wirephoto)



A EUROPEAN Ariane-2 rocket lifts off from the launch pad in Kourou, French Guyana yesterday. The rocket was carrying a two-tonne telecommunications satellite into orbit. (Reuter wirephoto)



BIRMINGHAM postmistress Beryl Frizzel, 61, poses in London with grapefruit cans like the ones she used to fight off attackers at her shop in Birmingham. She threw the cans at the robbers, forcing them to flee without stealing anything. She was given a Post Office bravery award. (Reuter wirephoto)



MORE than 30,000 protesters gathered at the main square outside the provincial capital building in Kwangju, Korea yesterday in a peaceful anti-government protest, chanting slogans and listening to speeches by politicians and student leaders. (Reuter wirephoto)



DR PAULINE CUTTING gets her picture taken by her father Alan Cutting after she received an honorary degree yesterday from London City University for her life-saving work in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. (Reuter wirephoto)



RIOT police are caught on fire after being hit by petrol bombs from anti-government students demonstrating on the street of Myong-dong in Seoul yesterday. The student protest was to mark the 1980 Kwangju uprising. (Reuter wirephoto)

Behind the surf and palm-fringed beaches lies an interior of extraordinary beauty

Bewitched by the charms of Bali

By Sarah Montgomery

WHEN the Dutch first landed on this island in the 16th century, it is said that half the sailors refused to leave for home again, so bewitched were they by the Balinese women.

In an effort to restore order, their officers imposed their own standards upon the women, forcing them to adopt a more modest form of dress. Today it is the Westerners who go topless and the locals who feel their moral standards threatened, but fortunately such indiscretions are limited to Bali's southernmost beaches.

Kuta Beach is overrun by motor cycles and package deals, with a place to stay down every alley. But even here, as the surfers make for the beach in the early morning, they must side-step past a serene Balinese lady totally absorbed in offering the gods of the household shrine a gift of rice grains in a tiny basket woven from strips of banana leaves. Deep in concentration, she scatters rose and marigold petals and, over it all, shakes holy water from an hibiscus flower, her hands making dancing, ritual movements.

Behind the surf and palm-fringed beaches lies an interior of extraordinary beauty. Rarely can intensive agriculture have produced such an agreeable effect on a landscape. Rich damp volcanic soil supports terraces of jade-green rice paddy, and the air is filled with the sound of water moving in an intricate system of irrigation, part natural stream and part earthen banks, linked by bamboo pipes.

By day brilliant butterflies seem to be everywhere. At night the fields and paths are lit by fireflies and the frogs set up a great cacophony. The village of Ubud is set in such scenery: it's a place to head for first if, like the Balinese, you decide to treat the sea with suspicion.

It's easy to while away days wandering around Ubud and the surrounding fields and communities. There are woodcarvers and painters in abundance, and you can compare



Heaven on earth: women carrying baskets on their heads collect fresh fruit for gifts to the gods during one of Bali's festivals.

their work with that in the two museums. In the neighbouring village of Peliatan live members of an internationally renowned dance troupe. Some of the "tourists" you meet will be students, staying for months in Ubud to study gamelan music and the rudiments of Balinese dance.

Although there are performances most nights, dance is certainly not just for the tourists. Like the rest of the island's cultural activity, it is vitally linked with religion which is still central to the life of the people. So is having a good time, the two combining admirably in the form of festivals, one of which is almost always being celebrated somewhere.

Quite fortuitously, our arrival coincided with Galungan. For 10 days the gods come to earth to share in the festivities. The streets are decorated with green bamboo poles, dangling complicated

mobiles above the heads of Barongs, mythical beasts who dance under the watchful eyes of priests shaded by temple parasols of shocking pink and bright orange.

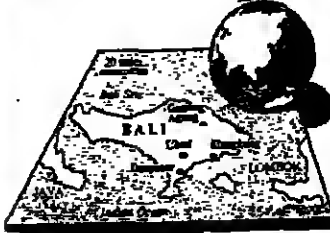
Everyday life on the island comes to a standstill while entire villages devote themselves to feeding the gods. On the last day of the festival, huge quantities of food are prepared and carried to the temple, balanced in elaborate arrangements on the heads of the women. Intensely practical at all times, the Balinese believe that the gods take the essence of the feast, leaving plenty of substance for mere mortals.

During this time we abandoned all attempts at formal sight-seeing. Rising at six, as the mist lifted from the paddy fields, we would be dressed correctly in sarong and temple sash by the smiling owner of the lodges, the simple lodgings in which we were staying and, in

response to the call of the great drums, head for the temple like everyone else.

There were other days on which to see the major sights. Organised tours can have their advantages, but it's much more fun to travel by bemo. These small vans are the major local transport system, forming an utterly unintelligible network which criss-crosses the island. It can take up to 10 changes to get where you want to go, but a smattering of Indonesian, gleaned from a small phrasebook, helps.

We would arrive in a village and announce loudly our intended destination. Fierce competition among bemo-owners ensured that we would be rapidly whisked away by whoever was most persistent, and crammed into the back along with several toothless old ladies, children, two bunches of green bananas, a protesting hen, a sack of rice, a basket of



oranges and half a bicycle. Bemos are never full. In this manner we visited Klungkung, ancient capital of the rajahs, and learnt from the wonderful paintings on the ceiling of the Hall of Justice exactly what would happen to those who committed the heinous crime of excess flatulence. We meandered around the ruined water palace at Tirtagangga, lazed on the coral beach at Candi Dasa, and watched the arrival of families making a pilgrimage to the holiest of Balinese temples, Pura Besakih, on the slopes of Gunung Agung, the largest of Bali's central volcanoes.

Crossing this volcanic ridge, climbing hills rich with cloves and coffee, we headed north to Lovina Beach. Here (in the absence of surf and Australian tourists) we stayed in a bamboo house on a beach of black sand and lived on fish, pineapple and avocado. We spent the days snorkelling. Strange fishing boats—dug-out canoes stabilised with bamboo outriggers, their prows carved into sea-monsters bearing a single horn—carried us out to the coral reefs.

Back in Ubud after a 10-day circuit of the island, we were greeted as old friends, with the best rooms in the lodges saved especially for us, and bicycles ready for a last evening's expedition.

Of such memories is Bali made: sunset in Petulu village, as the first of the white herons fly in. They arrive in V-shaped formation, luminescent against a sky of darkening pink, to roost in their hundreds on the coconut palms. Dusk rapidly gives way to darkness and we cycle home at full speed without lights, scattering chickens, with cries of the evening greeting, "Selamat sore," echoing in our ears.

Alexandrian ambience

By Tricia Haynes

THE Super Jet air-conditioned bus takes three and a half hours to cover the 132 miles from Cairo to Alexandria. At Ramesses Square, men board smartly while women cajole the driver into heaving aboard bulging shopping bags.

It took us an hour to reach Giza but once we hit the desert road the bus made good progress. It's a relief to escape the teeming streets of Cairo.

I was last in Alexandria 10 years ago, but not much has changed. The cafes are still filled with men drinking chai and chain-smoking, streets are traffic-congested but the ambience is less charged than Cairo's, despite the seedy appearance, and the women look more striking.

The revolution of 1952 changed many things and in any case, Alexandrians always felt themselves apart from the rest of Egypt, which is probably why Alexandria has not developed as a tourist area. Prices have doubled in the past two years but in the bazaars you can find stylish leather goods, carpets and other good buys.

Many people are curious to visit El Alamein, 65 miles west of the city, where some 8,000 war dead lie in the British, Italian and German cemeteries, but few associate Alexandria with beaches or sightseeing. Egypt's second city, founded by Alexander the Great in 332 BC, is also Egypt's chief port and, like most busy ports, overrun by seamen when the fleets are in. When I visited the Graeco-Roman museum it was awash with Japanese sailors eagerly examining some of the 40,000 exhibits, many of which date from the third century BC.

To get the best from the museum, hire an English-speaking guide. Some of the labelling of exhibits is a little haphazard, but you can still enjoy the Crocodile temple, dating from the Ptolemaic period, and the mummies, including a Roman soldier and a Christian—identified by the painted black cross at his neck. Near the Graeco-Roman museum stands a Roman amphitheatre with 12 marble

terraces, discovered in 1964, the only one of its kind in Egypt.

A newer museum is the royal jewellery collection in the converted former palace of the Princess Faoua El Zahra. Its many treasures include Mohammed Ali's gold snuff box set with diamonds and a gold chess set made for King Farouk. Look, too, at the palace bathrooms, with their antiquated baths, bidets and plumbing-pipes.

From the museum I took the corniche, which sweeps along the coast from the city to Al Montazah Bay and King Farouk's empty folly of a summer palace. Amid date palms in the grounds is the Palestine Hotel, built in six months for the 1960 Arab conference. It has superb sea views, and restaurants, where you can sample Alexandrian wine: the Rose d'Egypte is best, the white Ptolemy passable, and the Omar Khayyam rouge an acquired taste.

While you may not often encounter typical Egyptian dishes like shakshouja (boiled chicken with walnuts and rice) except in private homes, you can see any amount of 'fool' (spicy beans) and 'falafel' (savory patties). Don't sample either from street vendors unless you have a cast-iron stomach.

Close by the Palestine Hotel is the 15th-century fort of Quait Bei, built by Mamluk Sultan Quait Bei on the ruins of the old lighthouse of Alexandria. Inside is a small but intriguing museum containing, among other exhibits, gunshot from Nelson's fleet, which clobbered Napoleon's at Abu Keir.

Alexandria's white sand beaches stretch for 19 miles from Agami in the west (the western beaches are best) to Abu Keir in the east. Residents of Cairo favour Ma'amouria; Alexandrians, Al Montazah, Agami and Hannouville. The owner of the Hannouville Hotel, a character in her 70s who smokes the traditional hubble-bubble pipe, has recently added a swimming pool and disco, hoping to attract tourists.



In the bazaars one can find stylish leather goods, carpets and other good buys.

The Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers, in cooperation with Messilah Beach Hotel are organising

KUWAIT'S 2ND BI-ANNUAL OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RACE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Boats must be at least 18 ft in length.
- Engines must be outboard. If a single engine boat is used, an additional 10hp engine is advised. A maximum of two engines are allowed.
- Crew must have a minimum of two persons. All must be at least 18 years of age.
- Date: June 3, 1988.
- The boat must be registered with the port authority of Kuwait, or if the boat is from outside Kuwait, with the authority for its port of origin.

Safety Requirements

- All participants must have the following equipment:
 - A helmet and protective glasses.
 - Lifejackets (Inflatable life jackets not permitted).
 - A marine compass (advanced electronic navigation equipment is prohibited).
 - Anchor suitable for the size of the boat and a 25 metre (minimum) rope.
 - At least three red safety flares and a fire extinguisher.
- Boats must be adequately supplied with fuel sufficient to cover the race distance.
- Any battery or fuel tank leakages must be well-checked and repaired before the race.
- Each boat should carry either a telephone or a 2 way radio system.

Failure to comply with the above regulations and safety requirements will result in disqualification. Scrutineering will be held prior to the race, and competitors must display their safety equipment on the deck of the boat.

Bulletins detailing further requirements/information will be issued from time to time.

- Participation is open to all Gulf Citizens and residents who have lived in the Gulf for a minimum of six months.
- Last date for accepting entries is May 30, 1988.

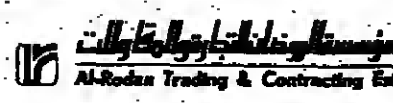
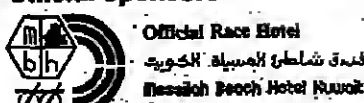
Entry fee per person KD 15,000



to be held on Friday, June 3rd, 1988.

The 61.1 Nautical mile race will start from the beach opposite the Messilah Beach Hotel.

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Kuwait 2nd Annual Raft Day

BUSINESS & FINANCE

'The ogre of inflation looms on the horizon'

Good US trade data may not be enough to lift post-crash gloom

LONDON, May 18. (Reuters) Stock markets seemed to defy logic when they fell this week on news of much-improved US trade figures, but economists say there may be good cause for the pessimism of dealers burned in the crash of '87.

Since the "Black Monday" October 19 shake-out, dealers in stocks and currencies have shown a knack for seeing the dark cloud behind every silver lining.

Tuesday's report of a \$4 billion drop in the US trade gap to \$9.75 billion in March, was exactly the kind of sharp — in fact, sharper than expected — decline which dealers had once been saying was needed to turn markets around.

But it did not. Stock markets around the world slid. The dollar jumped on Tuesday, but currency analysts were quick to caution against

further rises. It hardly moved today.

"I'm completely mystified," said D. Sykes Wilford, an economist with Chase Manhattan Bank, in London.

"But I think it's just carefulness, after October," he added. "I guess a lot of people figure that the steepest of the good news on trade."

Some dealers have said they did not quite trust the March trade figures, worrying they were distorted by lower oil prices and a sharp rise in gold sales to Taiwan. Others say they fear the figures signal an overheating US economy and inflation.

"I think the point is that all the things markets were worried about in October have not gone away," said Sushil Wadhvani of

the London School of Economics. One worry is that, even as they shrink, US trade deficits are still massive.

The deficits mean Americans spend more dollars than the rest of the world really wants to hold. If the value of the dollar keeps falling as a result, that could price European and Japanese goods off world markets and cause a recession in those export-led economies.

Another worry is inflation. Although the trade deficit fell, Americans still buy billions of dollars of imports a month and that spending spree could kick off a new round of price hikes.

The ogre of inflation looms on the horizon. Exports were up at a record level, imports were up and the big surge in exports means US manufacturing is operating at full tilt. We could be looking at

increased inflation pressures," said Monte Gordoo of the Wall Street financial giant Dreyfus Corp.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson, at an OECD meeting in Paris, said: "Looking at commodity prices and other indicators, some resurgence of world inflation, albeit not on the scale of the seventies, looks to be a greater danger than world recession."

Still another worry is higher interest rates. They may have to rise to cool inflation or to stabilize exchange rates or, thirdly, to persuade foreign investors to keep buying US government bonds to finance America's other big deficit — that on its federal budget.

Financing that deficit is an abiding worry, economists say. Another is the crisis over the Third World's \$1.2 trillion of

debt. All these concerns scared investors last October, when an earlier US trade report helped send stock markets around the world tumbling and Wall Street stocks shed nearly a quarter of their value in one day.

In October, the report that helped set off the collapse was also of decline in the US trade deficit for August.

Decline It was a modest decline, of less than \$one billion from a record of 16.47 billion posted in July. Markets decided it was too modest to be of much help.

Now, US officials are jubilant about the latest trade numbers. "The United States is back on the track toward a lower trade deficit in 1988," said US trade representative Clayton Yeutter, in Paris for the OECD talks. They are not alone.

"The trade figures (for March) were very good. Things are getting better not only in the United States but also regarding trade imbalances in Japan and Europe," said West German Economic Minister Martin Bangemann, who is also at the talks.

But Christoph Koellreuter, director of the Basle Business Cycle Research Group, said the other big US deficit — the government budget deficit — was still a worry.

And Dutch Economic Affairs Minister Rudolph de Korte said that while the decline in the trade deficit "was a hopeful sign but it doesn't mean that the US can stop efforts to cut its deficits."

Even if there were no economic reasons for caution, many traders — like gamblers — distrust good luck. Even if it shows up in economic statistics like the trade figure.

Condition proposed by US Senate could threaten free trade deal

TORONTO, May 18. (AP) Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's government was on the defensive today after the powerful US Senate Finance Committee said all 10 Canadian provinces must implement the US-Canada free trade deal, or there will be no deal.

The Senate Committee, chaired by Lloyd Bentsen, won the Reagan administration's support for the condition on Monday.

The problem for Mulroney is that two provinces, Ontario and Prince Edward Island, oppose the free trade agreement signed on Jan 2 and scheduled to begin on Jan 1, 1989, if ratified by Congress and the Canadian parliament.

Four other provinces have warned the federal government not to use constitutional muscle in overriding areas of provincial jurisdiction.

Participation

For the moment, the spotlight is on Ontario, the industrial powerhouse of Canada. The free trade agreement, which took 18 months to negotiate, would be undermined without its participation.

Ontario Premier David Peterson said today that if the deal depends on his formal approval, then it is dead.

"If you ask me to sign a piece of paper saying that I agree with it, the answer is no," he told reporters. "If that in fact stops the deal, then the deal will stop. I am not prepared to implement anything... we don't like."

Peterson claims the agreement gives the United States too much influence over Canadian policies of energy, agriculture and service industries, without protecting Canada from US countervail and anti-dumping duties.

Ifad loan to Bolivia for development project

ROME, May 18. (Opecna): The International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad) is to extend a loan of \$5.50 million to Bolivia for a rural development project.

The main purpose of the Chiquisaca project is to increase the area's small farmers' food production and productivity, improve their incomes, nutritional levels and general standard of living. It also includes a provision for the improvement of the existing infrastructure and the rehabilitation of the irrigation system.

Credit The project, which will benefit 12,000 families, will also provide credit to individual smallholders and their organisations and cooperatives to enable them to make small investments in the production of such crops as potatoes, maize and beans.

After completion of the project, a three-fold increase is expected in the average net income of farmers, as well as to their standard of living. It will also strengthen local institutions and peasant organisations and reduce the number of people migrating from the area because of lack of opportunities.

Other contributors to the \$9-million project are: the Opec Fund for International Development (two million), the World Food Programme (0.25 million) and the government of Bolivia itself (1.25 million).

The soft-term loan carries a service charge of one per cent and is repayable in 50 years, including a five-year grace period.

Monetary growth is on its way to overshooting its assigned growth range

Rise in Bundesbank interest rates is inevitable: economists

FRANKFURT, May 18. A consensus is building among monetary economists that the Bundesbank's official short-term interest rates have no place to go but up. The disagreement starts on the question of when, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The Bundesbank's measure of monetary expansion, having overshoot its assigned range for two years, was still running off the chart in the first quarter of the West German economy revived, reawakening inflation fears. West German market interest rates have been rising steadily, threatening to force the central bank into realigning its own rates whether it wants to or not.

The Bundesbank announced last week an unchanged 3-1/4 per cent fixed rate on its one-month securities repurchase agreements, a primary financ-

ing instrument for the banking system and the Bundesbank's favoured tool for steering German interest rates. That rate has stood untouched since last November.

Repurchase But many economists read the unchanged repurchase rate only as a delay in the inevitable. "All the indications are that it's just a question of timing now," said Richard Reid, senior European economist for URS-Phillips & Drew in London.

Monetary analysts believe that the timing of any Bundesbank action depends on the US Federal Reserve.

Inflation fears in the US could prompt the Fed to tighten its own short-term interest rates soon, as many expect it to. That would allow the Bundesbank to say it was only following the Fed's initiative, diminishing chances of a political backlash from the US.

The Bundesbank has fresh memories of its failed attempt to nudge up short-term rates last autumn, a procedure that drew critical broadsides from the Reagan administration and helped trigger the Oct 19 stock market crash. The episode made clear that political considerations play as much a role in West Germany's interest rate policy as economic indicators.

With a US presidential election campaign focusing in part on trade issues, West German policy makers are reluctant to excite political controversy with actions that could be construed as restrictive.

Moreover, by waiting until the Fed raises US interest rates before lifting its own, the Bundesbank would preserve US-West German interest differentials and shield the dollar from a fall against the Deutsche mark. "It is highly conceivable that

the Bundesbank is in close contact with the Fed about these rates," said Giles Keating of Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd. in London. "The Bundesbank is edging toward tightening but is very aware of the international dangers and will want to follow the United States rather than lead it."

Increases Economists predicting increases in the Bundesbank's short-term rates commonly point to rising interest rates in West German capital markets. Bond yields have been moving up across the board in recent weeks, a trend that Bundesbank vice president Helmut Schlesinger recently attributed to rising interest rates in the US.

West Germany's monetary growth is on its way to overshooting its assigned growth range for the third consecutive year, and the domestic economy

is robust. The Bundesbank's concern that the continued overshooting is building up inflationary potential is shared by West Germany's five leading economic institutes, whose economic outlook issued last week predicts West Germany's inflation, at 1 per cent currently, would rise to 2.5 per cent in 1989, bringing it level with the Bundesbank's 2-1/2 per cent discount rate.

Bundesbank president Karl Otto Poehl declared on at least two occasions recently that the Bundesbank has accepted its overheating money supply aggregate "with reluctance" when emphasising West Germany's contribution to the stabilisation of currency markets. But Poehl, whose pragmatic policy stance favours international cooperation, also warned that internal monetary stability remains the Bundesbank's priority.

Small orange juice producers move into \$3 billion market

NEW YORK, May 18. (UPI) Lois Fricke, acutely aware of the difference in taste between Florida fresh-squeezed orange juice and other commercial brands, has moved into the ever competitive \$3 billion orange juice market.

Her Select Fresh Maid Inc., founded 2-1/2 years ago, sells fresh-squeezed orange juice with no additives and without pasteurisation and already has racked up \$2 million in annual sales.

The company expects to be a \$35 million business within another three years, growing at a rate of 30 per cent to 40 per cent a month — not a year, said Fricke.

Analyst The mother of two grown sons, Fricke last year became chairman and chief executive officer of publicly held International Fine Foods Inc., the parent of Select Fresh Maid.

Her company recently was selected as one of the emerging publicly held food concerns by food analyst Roger Lipton of Landenburg Thalmann & Co.

loc. and featured at the Lipton conference held in New York.

"I first tasted the juice in Florida and I thought why couldn't I bring that product to New York to be able to give the consumers a product just as good?" she recalled in a recent interview. "And I developed and perfected the method."

Reaction The traditional fare in New York was pasteurised with pulp taken out of the juice and then put back into the juice as dry pulp, which tasted "bitter," she said. "I did not like it at all and many people, as we did surveys, did not like it either."

Fricke said consumer reaction to her product is "excellent."

"We have people calling us everyday asking where to buy the juice," she said.

According to Fricke, among the three major juice producers, only Seagram Co.'s Tropicana Products Inc. offers premium orange juice made from fresh oranges. The two other brands

— Coca-Cola Co.'s Minute Maid and Procter and Gamble Co.'s Citrus Hill are made from concentrate.

But she said even Tropicana's premium juice undergoes pasteurisation — heating to 185 degrees Fahrenheit, which she claims destroys vitamins, natural nutrients, flavour and taste.

Why don't these companies produce purely fresh-squeezed juice? Her answer was that they cannot develop or have not developed a distribution method that she called the "store-door" system by which juice, squeezed at plants, is quickly put on store shelves.

Volume She said her Select Fresh Maid juice can stay fresh only for 18 days to 20 days, compared with 45 days for juice produced by other companies.

"They (big companies) are more interested in volume. Their bureaucracy of being large corporations prohibits them from meeting consumer needs," she said.

Foreign investment doubles

Mexico liberalises its economy

MEXICO CITY, May 18. (Reuters) Mexico, the Third World's second biggest debtor after Brazil, is beginning to reap the gains of a bid to shake up its economy.

Foreign investment doubled in 1987, says the government of President Miguel de La Madrid. He has cut subsidies and import tariffs and sold state assets to private business, opening a state-protected economy to free market forces.

This year, the government announced the breakup or sale of the state airline, Aeromexico, and of the giant Cananea copper mining company which was worth \$910 million.

At the heart of government policy has been an attack on a public-sector deficit which last year came to 15.8 per cent of gross domestic product and was a chief cause of record 159 per cent inflation.

"We cannot have a strong state sector, one that really manages the economy, if it suffers from a structural deficit," De La Madrid said early in May.

Plan An anti-inflation plan meanwhile cut the rise in the cost of living to three per cent a month by April from 15.5 per cent in January.

It involved spending cuts so far this year of 978 billion pesos (\$430 million), equivalent to five per cent of the budget.

The economy is not expected

to grow more than one or two per cent this year, but a decision in December to cut maximum import tariffs to 20 per cent from 40 per cent admitted a flood of imports — up by half in the first three months of 1988.

Some economists predict this will cut a healthy trade surplus, but others say it should promote economic growth.

New foreign investment last year, meanwhile, doubled to \$3.2 billion as part of the general liberalisation and an attack on trade union power that only a few years ago would have been politically unthinkable.

Assets

The programme of selling state assets and streamlining the state sector is expected to continue in the next administration, likely to be headed by former Planning Minister Carlos Salinas de Gortari who is the co-candidate of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party.

"We must create a strong state sector, though not a big one, that will make Mexico competitive with other countries," Salinas says.

Mexico announced a privatisation programme in 1982 under which 300 of 412 state enterprises would be sold or liquidated by this year, according to the energy and parastatal industry ministry.

To date, the government has received about \$450 million from the sale of parastatal companies.

officials of the comptroller-general's office say.

But the programme has made slow progress, and by the end of last year the list had been reduced to only 150. The companies sold included hotels, steel, ceramics, and petrochemical firms.

Private business leaders grumbled that only the smaller and less interesting enterprises were being sold off and in mid-1987 the much-heralded sale of 58 per cent state-owned Mexican airlines flopped.

Privatisation

Unions are still bitterly resisting its privatisation, fearing layoffs.

But early in January, De La Madrid said the programme was being speeded up as part of his anti-inflation drive aimed at reducing the public deficit.

The government then announced that its 50 per cent stake in 16 sugar mills was up for sale and that the Cananea copper mine, Mexico's biggest and 10th largest in the world, would be sold.

Finalised in April, the Cananea privatisation, both raised cash for the government and reduced foreign debt through a novel mechanism financed in part by foreign banks led by First Chicago.

The winning Mexican bidder, Protea, will pay Cananea's owner, state development bank Nafinsa, by acquiring \$910 million of Mexican foreign debt paper.

World oilseed production to hit record this year, says US

WASHINGTON, May 18. (AP) Global production of oilseeds in 1987-88 is expected to be a record 203.7 million metric tons, up 5 per cent from last season, says the department's Foreign Agricultural Service.

Projections indicate output may rise further in 1988-89. Based upon various USDA reports issued last week, including the May 10 supply-and-demand projections for 1988 harvests, the United States will continue to hold a comfortable lead in soybean production.

Of the 203.7 million tons of oilseeds produced in the world, soybeans will comprise 101.1 million tons, or almost half the global harvest. The US soybean share is more than 51.8 million tons.

A metric ton is about 2,205

pounds and is equal to 36.7 bushels of soybeans.

Brazil, the leading soybean competitor for American farmers, is expected to provide 17.6 million tons. China's harvest was estimated at about 12.1 million tons, with Argentina next at 9 million tons.

Globally, cottonseed is the second-ranked oilseed at almost 30.7 million tons of production in 1987-88.

China is the cottonseed leader at 7.1 million tons, followed by the United States, 5.23 million, and the Soviet Union, 4.49 million.

Several of the remaining major oilseeds — peanuts, sunflowerseed and rapeseed — are fairly close in production totals, ranging from 19 million to 23 million tons.

Foreign import firms keen on buying from India

BOMBAY, May 18. Numerous overseas importing firms have indicated their interest in buying products from India, says a press statement issued by Federation of Indian Export Organisations (Western Region) here.

Taiwan Chang's Pi-Shung Industrial Co., Taiwan — all kinds of papers and novelties; Air Union International Corporation, Taipei — (a) gear sets (artificial stone) for watches, meters and instruments, (b) stainless steel (such as TS56 cold-rolled strip 0.12 mm T x 17 mm W x coil) for blades of electrical shavers, (c) make-up items for hair-do, (d) time switch for stoves, ovens, toasters, food processors, heating appliances for beauty parlours.

Green Root Industrial Co., Taipei — building materials, interior decorations, medium density fibre boards; Tondalee Trading Co., Taipei — frozen lobsters.

Kuwait Mr Edmond A. Garabedian, Al Jhara Agricultural Products Equipments & Supplies Co., Safat Kuwait — clay pots for garden.

Italy Ellesse s.p.a. Ellera Umbra (PG), Italy — ready-made garments and sportswear; Expomaster, Prato (FI) — sportswear, cotton T-shirts; S.R.L. Funo Oil Di Argelato (BO) — shirts for men; Daritex sportswear s.r.l., Rogno (Bergamo) — trousers in denim for men, women and children (14 Oz. 5 pockets; 3A di Formica, Parma — cotton working uniforms.

Vedovi Giancarlo, Cavriola (Mantova), Italy — ready-made garments, particularly, lungis in cotton, trousers; Giancittao

Giuseppe, Mazara Del Vallo (Cicilia) — articles such as shirts and trousers in cotton and other fabrics; Camera di Commercio, Sassari — ready-made garments, articles in cotton and T-shirts; Texelle s.r.l., Biella (VC) — Woven labels.

Sea Paper, Moncalieri (TO), Italy cotton rags in containers; Pampinella in Verce, Valdesi Palermo — textiles (Polyester); Origami s.n.c., Baschi (Terme) — textiles (raw cotton); Sergio Bellari s.p.a., Fagnola Valdarno (FI) — textiles (cotton, linen and wool); L. F. S. Calenzano (FI) — textiles (100 per cent raw cotton, polyester); Confenzioni C.R.T. s.r.l.; Andria (BA) — yarn; Lanificio Picchi Francesco, Prato (FI) — 100 per cent linen yarn.

La. Fi. S.a.s., Calenzano (FI) Italy Cadry yarn Agraria Checchi Silvano e C. Pistola — jute yarn; Impress Barbagallo Donata, Gela (CL) — handicrafts, such as carpets, statues, ceramic articles etc.; A. O. Tex. import, Torino (TO) — industrial gloves; Camper (IA) Di Commercio, Sassari (SS) — handicrafts, silverware, gift articles etc.; Rag. Pietro Bianchi, Firenze (FI) — gift articles; Ente Fiera, Cavitaova Marche — footwear.

Villegaria Bertagnini s.n.c., San Bonifacio Italy — leather articles like portfolio, pouch for key-chains etc.; 3A di Formica, Parma — leather working gloves; Camera di Commercio Milano (MI) — marble, granite; Consorzio Esportatori Importatori Friulani, Udine — teakwood (semi-finished products); Carriere Arturo Sottrici, Olgiate Olona (MI) — titanium dioxide; Borgatti & Co. s.a.s., Milano (MI) — gift wrapping paper, decorative ribbon.

World Business Summary

EEC to tighten list of duty-free military goods

STRASBOURG, France, May 18. (AP) The European Economic Community Commission said today it will tighten the list of imported duty-free military goods, claiming it is losing 200 million European currency units (\$246 million) every year. The EEC's executive body also wants to ensure that all 12 member states are levying duties on goods which are not on the duty-free list. A commission spokesman said the new legislation should be adopted before the end of this year. Currently, warships, military weapons except small arms, spares and accessories are duty-free in accordance with the common customs traffic. But member states do not all interpret "spares and accessories" in the same way. Some are exempting Army boots and the Netherlands imports whisky duty-free for its Army on the grounds that it is a military accessory. There are many other goods, including significant military hardware such as planes, helicopters, jeeps, radar and telecommunications equipment, which can also have civil uses and are being imported duty-free by Belgium, Italy, Denmark, Britain and Greece.

The commission has started legal proceedings against several member states — Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Greece, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom — about these alleged misinterpretations of customs rules. The cases are suspended, however, until the EEC works out a common position. An EEC official said the commission wants to clarify this "gray" area and make the list of exemptions clearer than it currently is. The common customs tariff list dates from 1958. He said it was important to "have uniform duties" paid by the member states, notably in view of the 1992 deadline by which the EEC plans to have dismantled all barriers to the free movement of goods, capital, services and people within the trading bloc.

BP America reports 13.6pc increase in operating income

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 18. (AP) Increased earnings in the chemicals and minerals segments helped boost BP America's first quarter operating income 13.6 per cent over the same period last year, the company announced today. BP America, the US affiliate of the British Petroleum Co. of London, said it had first quarter operating profits of \$576 million, compared to a \$507 million operating profit during the first quarter of 1987. BP America was formed last June through the merger of BP North America and the Standard Oil Co. James H. Ross, president and chief executive officer of BP America, said operating income in the chemicals segment jumped 230 per cent, from \$111 million to \$333 million. In the minerals segment, operating income increased 240 per cent, from \$22 million to \$121 million. Ross said. The operating income from petroleum exploration and production dropped 22.7 per cent, from \$422 million to \$326 million, while operating income from refining and marketing increased 30.7 per cent from \$1 million to \$119 million, Ross said. "In these areas, stronger margins in downstream petroleum operations and a 5 per cent increase in oil and gas production helped offset the effect of lower oil prices," he said. BP America said its Alaskan crude oil contract prices averaged \$14.52 a barrel during the quarter, down from \$15.51 a barrel during the same period in 1987.

Shabwa oil reserves reach 500m tonnes, says S. Yemen

SOUTH Yemen has upgraded to 500 million tonnes the oil reserves in its Shabwa field where oil was first found in December, 1986, the country's oil minister said in remarks published today. Saleh Abutaker Bin Hussain told a Kuwait daily, Al Sayasah, that production was now limited to about 20 to 30 barrels could transport out of the region each day. The oil is being taken to Aden for refining. He said the Soviet Union had agreed to develop the field and build a pipeline at a cost of 70 million roubles (\$120 million). The Middle East Economic Survey last month said the pipeline would have an initial capacity of 50,000 to 70,000 barrels per day, eventually reaching 500,000 barrels. Bin Hussain told Al Sayasah that South Yemen imported 625,000 tonnes of crude oil and oil products in 1987. In February, Bin Hussain told Reuters the oil field, developed by the Soviet Techneop, was producing 10,000 barrels per day.

Economy gets fresh impetus

NEW DELHI, May 18. (Kuna): Addressing the opening session of the symposium on development of India's economy, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said that a fresh impetus had been given to the growth of the national economy in the recent few years, and that effective measures had been taken for the development of agriculture. The government continues devoting much attention to strengthening the state sector, which will further retain the command heights in India's economy. The objective today, the prime minister noted, is to enhance the effectiveness of the state sector, to step up the efforts for eliminating losses in production, for improving the living standards of the workers at state-owned enterprises. At the same time the leadership of the republic considers it necessary to lend dynamism to the development of the private sector, which makes a noticeable contribution to strengthening the country's economic potential, the prime minister noted. An improvement in its activities will be achieved through an increase in its competitiveness, a cut in the prime cost of the products. India's economy should become profitable as a result of the government's measures for streamlining the activities of the management, for perfecting planning and technical re-equipment of various branches of industry. All that, Rajiv Gandhi stressed, stems from the need for improving the quality of Indian-made products and their appearance to a broad international market. India will continue pursuing its own line of economic development and does not wish to borrow from abroad any development models. This policy accords with the country's national interest and fully corresponds to the independent policy outlined by the republic's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajiv Gandhi said in conclusion.

Brazil resumes talks with IMF

BRASILIA, Brazil, May 18. (AP) After a three-year break, Brazil yesterday began formal talks with the IMF and announced economic goals to slash the budget deficit and soaring inflation. President Jose Sarney announced his administration's objectives through 1989 after an all-morning meeting with the nation's governors. The economic aims are to be basis for a lengthy negotiation with the International Monetary Fund. Although it made its loan payments, Brazil stopped negotiating with the fund in 1985, saying its policies are recessionary. Sarney said Brazil planned to cut inflation, maintain economic growth at 4 per cent and cut the huge gaps in distribution of wealth with three goals — immediate reduction of the public deficit from 5.5 to 4 per cent, — greater opening of Brazil to international markets starting with reestablishment of relations with international financial communities, including the IMF.

— modernisation and expansion of the economy. Details of the economic goals are to be worked out at a later date. Finance Minister Malson da Nobrega said specific measures to be announced later in the week would include a cut in the budget deficit of 0.9 per cent, a new industrial policy and new trade rules to open Brazil's market to foreign competition.

An IMF team led by the South Atlantic division chief, Thomas Reichmann started talks on Monday with the Central Bank and the Finance Ministry on lending Brazil 1.5 billion in standby money over the next 18 months. Reichmann said Brazil owes the fund \$2.6 billion, \$900 million of which is due in 1988. Brazil owes \$123 billion to foreign banks and after a 11-month moratorium on interest payments, Brazil reached a preliminary agreement with banks to reschedule some 64 billion in interest and principal due over 20 years with an eight-year grace period.

LONDON

(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST
ABBEE LFE	270/0
ADT LTD	116/0
ALD LYONS	14.58
AMSTRAD	175.0
ARGYLE GP	194.0
ASDA GP	157/0
BAA	279/0
BAT	252/0
BAT INDS	405/0
BARCLAYS	393.0
BASS	823.0
BEAZER	175.0
BEECHAM	462/0
BERNARDS	08.00
BICC PLC	114.0
BLUE ALRW	310/0
BLSC CTRC	418/0
BOC GP	384/0
BOOTS CO	216/0
BP INDOS	275/0
BR COM	154/0
BR AIRWAY	405/0
BR AEROSP	140/0
BR GAS RG	66.0
B.P.	60.73
BP NEW	243/0
BR TELCOM	505.0
BRITZOL	131/6
BURMAN O	544.0
BURTON	232/0
CABLEWARR	55.66
CADBURYS	328/0
COATS VVY	225/0
COMB UNI	238/0
CONS GOLD	970.0
COOKSONS	521/0
COURTAULD	365/0
DALGETY	295.0
DAV CP	171.0
DIXONS	425.0
ENG CHINA	14.00
ENTER OIL	182/0
FKI BARCK	324/0
FERRANTI	80/0
GEN ACCIO	903/0
GEN ELEC	146/0
GLAXO	915.5
GRANADA	309.5
GLOBE	132.0
GLYMEED	453.0
GUARD RYL	884/0
GU CP	369.5
GUTHRIESS	590/0
HAMPSH A	131/0
HAKER SD	513.0
HILLSDOWN	271.0
ICI	968/0
IMI	186/0

INCHCAPE	739/0
JAGUAR	246/0
LADBROKE	405/0
LAND SECS	594.0
LAPORTE	405.0
LASMO	393.0
LEGAL-GEN	267/0
LONRHO	212.0
LUCAS IND	222.0
MAGNET	240.0
MARKS-SP	183/0
MAXWELL C	220/0
METAL BOX	02.79
MEPC	585/0
MIDLAND BK	358/0
NEXT	299/0
NTH FOODS	285/0
P & O FPD	582/4
PEARL	67.53
PEARSON	695/0
PILKINGTON	200.0
PIESSEY	57.84
PENSIONAL	310/0
PRAIRIE	310/0
RANK	-338/0
RANK INVTS	176/0
RANK REE	673/0
RCX ITT+CD	412.0
RED LEAD	329.0
REED	412.0
RFL BK SC	329.0
RYM GRP	450.0
REUTERS	464/0
RTZ CORP.	370.0
ROLLS ROY	121/0
ROTHMAN B	178/0
ROYNREE	890/0
ROYAL INS	385/0
SAAATCHI	385/0
SANTOSBURY	222/0
SCOT+HEW	305.0
SEARS	118/0
SEDEGWICK	26.22
SHELL	038/0
SMITH IND	110.0
SMITH+NEPH	210.0
SUN	251.0
STOREHOUSE	930/0
SUN ALLIA	240/0
TARMAC	770/0
TATE+LEA	149/0
TESCO	635/0
THORN EMI	299.0
TRAF HSE	96.0
T + H	178/0
TRUSTHSE	230/0
ULSTERMAR	281/0
UNILEVER	360.0
URKATE	262/0
UNIT HASC	240.0
WELLSOME	508.0
WYBIRD IN	295/0
WILLIAMS	274/0
WILLIS FB	240.0
WINPEY GE	297.0
WOODMORTH	240.0

LONDON

(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
A.B.ELECT	419/0	420/0
APV PLC	115/0	114/0
AARONSON	120/0	121/0
AAH NLD	271/0	270/0
ACRE OIL	178/0	176/0
ADDISON	90/0	91/0
ADNEST	322/0	321/0
ALEX WRKM	166/0	165/0
ALEXON	378/0	379/0
ALLIANCE	769/0	765/0
ALLD COLL	123/0	123/0
ALLD PLNT	51/0	51/0
AMARI	182/0	182/0
AMEC	378/0	375/0
AMER TRST	116/4	115/0
AMERSHAM	451/0	451/0
AMI HLTRC	263/0	261/0
U-APP NLD	280/0	280/0
APPLEYARD	436/0	435/0
APR100T	99/0	99/0
ARAN ENJ	74/0	74/0
ARCHER AJ	158/0	158/0
ARLINGTON	202/0	201/0
ARMSTRONG	129/0	130/0
AWEL OF CS	195/0	194/0
AQUAS A	83/0	83/0
ASHLEY LA	115/0	116/0
ATTWOODS	285/0	285/0
AUST REED	363/0	363/0
AUS REE A	258/0	257/0
AVON RUBB	725/0	725/0
BSG INTL	63/0	63/0
BATLL JAP	502/0	498/0
BANKER IT	65/0	64/0
BK OF SCO	519/0	517/0
BARKER DO	144/0	144/0
BARKER DEV	181/0	180/0
R.BEWHILL	160/0	161/0
BEAUF	28/0	28/0
BEJAK GP	170/0	169/0
BELHAVER	45/0	44/0
BELWAY	252/0	253/0
BENLOX HD	65/0	65/0
BENNETT +F	33/0	34/0
BENTALLS	179/0	178/0
BERKELEY	345/0	345/0
BHN GROUP	111/0	110/0
BIRMD OIL	395/0	395/0
BLACK LE 2	16/2	16/4
BOASE NAS	252/0	252/0
BOODINGTN	140/0	140/0
BOOKER	386/0	387/0
BORTHWICK	63/0	64/0
BOWATER	383/0	383/0
BONTHORPE	153/0	152/0
BLACKWOOD	51/0	51/0
BLACK SHOP	528/0	528/0
BRAWNER	243/0	243/0
BRENT CHE	140/0	140/0
BRENT MCR	371/0	371/0
BRIDON	168/0	166/0

BRITANNIC	075/0	070/0	HALMA	144/0	143/0	PREDY(A)	233/0	229/0
BR ASSETS	65/0	64/4	HAMBROS	204/0	204/0	PREN CONS	64/4	64/0
BR DREGDI	129/0	129/0	HAMMERSON	610/0	613/0	U-PROP TS	2/6	3/0
BR LAND	323/0	324/0	HRS GWS	145/0	145/0	PROOF FOOT	270/0	270/0
BR VITA	228/0	228/0	HARRISON C	601/0	600/0	QUEENS MO	95/4	95/0
BRITXON E	310/0	311/0	U-HAUFTRM	48/0	48/4	U-RNDSUTH	168/0	168/0
U-BRD ST	50/4	51/0	HEATH(CE)	401/0	400/0	RATNERS	256/0	255/0
BR BRUNNER	102/0	101/0	HELENE PL	34/0	35/0	READICUT	73/0	74/0
BULMER HP	172/0	172/0	HINDS GP	371/0	372/0	REDFEARN	480/0	480/0
CRH	118/0	119/0	HMPATH CRM	221/0	220/0	REGALTON	172/0	173/4
CAMB INST	45/0	46/0	HENDER-ST	134/0	134/0	REVISION	180/0	180/0
CAMB ELEC	244/0	244/0	HETWOOD W	295/0	296/0	REMOLO	54/4	54/0
CAMPORD E	165/0	165/0	HIGGS LN	381/0	380/0	RENTOKIL	187/0	186/0
CANNING W	185/0	186/0	HIGGS HIL	124/0	125/0	RHP GROUP	188/0	188/0
CANNON ST	286/0	285/0	H/LND OIS	112/0	121/0	ROBINSON	386/0	385/0
CAP GRP	299/0	301/0	HOGG TST	219/0	218/0	ROCKWAVE	64/0	65/0
CAP..RAD IO	222/0	222/0	HOLLIS	112/0	111/0	U-ROFEBM	170/0	170/0
CARLCO EN	162/0	160/0	HOPKINSON	112/0	111/0	ROTHSCHILD	157/0	159/0
CARLESS C	113/0	113/0	U-HUGHES	101/0	101/0	ROHNEY	316/0	316/0
CARLTON C	760/0	758/0	U-HUGH..JT	73/0	73/0	ROTOR	140/0	140/0
CATER ALL	373/0	370/0	I-BSTOCK J	170/0	170/0	RUBENBERG	162/0	163/0
CENTR ITV	505/0	508/0	ICE..FZ..FD	366/0	366/0	RYAN GP	246/0	245/0
CIATER CH	331/0	331/0	IMRY N..DV	386/0	385/0	SAGI..HOLS	200/0	200/0
CHARTERA	18/0	18/0	INDPMDT	41/4	41/0	SALPENER	158/0	158/0
CHLONIDE	51/0	51/0	INDPMDT W	77/4	77/0	SAWILL'S S	246/0	246/0
CHRISTIES	550/0	548/0	INT..BU..CM	1070/0	108/0	SAVOY 'A'	60/0	60/0
CHAS CRU	126/0	126/0	INVERGORD	225/0	225/0	SCH..LOER	209/0	210/0
CIOR GRP	358/0	357/0	INV..CAP.	319/0	318/0	SCOT BERT	181/0	181/0
U-CIFER	14/0	14/0	INT..CITY	143/0	144/0	SCOT T..T	117/0	116/0
U-CLUFF	98/0	98/0	JMSN..MATH	290/0	290/0	SCOT NAT	124/0	125/0
CLAYTE PET	134/0	134/0	KALON CP	31/4	31/0	SCOT NAT	98/0	97/0
COOLIDE	301/0	301/0	KENBY BRK	412/0	413/0	SCOT MCT	25/0	25/0
COSSIS BR	324/0	325/0	KETSON	82/0	82/0	SCT NAT I	93/0	93/0
CASE GRP	97/0	97/0	KLMRT BEN	359/0	359/0	SCT NAT W	6/0	6/0
COLLINS W	565/0	568/0	KLMRT O'S	118/0	118/0	SCOT TV	387/0	388/0
COLLINS A	466/0	467/0	U-KUNICK	40/0	40/0	SECS TST	100/0	100/0
CNCRDE EN	52/0	52/0	KWIC..FT	156/0	159/0	U-SELECT	20/0	20/0
CNTRL..SEC	51/0	51/0	KSAFE	343/0	343/0	SENIOR ENG	50/0	49/0
COLORROLL	182/0	181/0	KLARO GP	240/0	240/0	SSO..CZ..D	330/0	322/0
COURTS FR	253/0	248/0	LAING ORD	315/0	313/0	STAN ENG	262/0	262/0
CI GROUP	44/0	44/0	LAINE 'A'	315/0	313/0	SINGER&P	68/0	69/0
COMPTON	290/0	290/0	LAING PRP	399/0	397/0	GOO GROUP	105/0	106/0
COMIE (CT)	108/0	106/0	LAMONT NL	278/0	279/0	SLOUGH ES	302/0	303/0
CRODA NTC	210/0	211/0	LAMOLEISU	352/0	353/0	SMITH D	344/0	343/0
CRIST INT	189/0	188/0	LAURENCE W	151/0	152/0	SMITH W-B	57/4	57/0
CROWDER	184/0	183/0	LEIGH INT	206/0	206/0	SMURFIT J	393/0	391/0
CRISTS AT	159/0	160/0	LES SERVCS	355/0	355/0	U-STH BUS	311/0	312/0
DARES EST	33/4	33/0	LILLEY FJ	43/0	43/0	SOUND DIF	30/0	30/0
CRSNT JN	157/0	156/0	U-LNCH HS	6/0	6/4	SOV..O-GAS	112/0	113/0
DAMSON IN	211/0	210/0	LOGICA	297/0	297/0	SPONG HD	16/6	16/4
DE LA RUE	373/0	372/0	LIT	28/0	29/0	SPRING RAM	189/0	189/0
DELTA GRP	300/0	298/0	LDN & MAN	172/0	269/0	SPRK-SARC	178/0	178/0
U-DEWEY W	124/0	125/0	LDN & MET	198/0	197/0	STAKIS	100/0	101/0
DRG	388/0	388/0	LASMO OPS	179/0	180/0	STAN SHOPS	295/0	295/0
DIPLOMA	239/0	239/0	LDN SHOP	241/0	242/0	STANLEY A	275/0	275/0
DRAYTON C	428/4	430/0	LDN LTD	149/0	150/0	STVLY IND	148/0	148/0
DRAYTON J	980/0	975/0	LDN LTD	243/0	243/0	STORMGLAR	11/2	11/0
DUNHILL	197/0	198/0	LOW-BOWEN	250/0	250/0	TYLER WDRO	409/0	408/0
EAGLE TST	16/4	16/4	LDN (WM)	616/0	615/0	TELENET	43/0	43/0
EAGLE RFL	16/0	16/0	LDN HARD	396/0	393/0	U-T..V..AM	215/0	217/0
EDIN J	147/0	147/0	LVT HD	150/0	151/0	T SOUTH	329/0	328/0
U-ERARGE	370/0	370/0	M&G GRP	334/0	334/0	TEMPLE BA	204/0	203/0
U-ERARGE	196/0	196/0	M&G GRP	288/0	286/0	TIE RACK	116/0	117/0
ELECTROCH	201/0	200/0	M&G GRP	288/0	286/0	TI GROUP	314/0	311/0
ELLIS EVA	184/0	185/0	MARCATHY	268/0	267/0			
ELLIS GOL	72/0	73/0	MAI	97/0	98/0			
EMAP	195/0	194/0	MANDERS	376/0	375/0			

NEW YORK		
NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	30/0	30/0
ATLANTIC R	85/5	85/4
AAR CORP	24/0	24/1
AETNA LIFE	40/0	40/0
ALBERTSONS	28/4	28/4
ALCAN ALUM	27/7	27/6
ALCO STAND	24/4	24/2
AM CYANAMID	47/6	48/0
AM ELET PW	26/3	26/3
AM ROM PRO	71/5	71/6
AM ROM PRO	79/5	79/7
AM STANWAD	71/0	76/7
AM STORES	56/4	57/0
AM TEL-TEL	26/3	26/4
AMOCO CORP	74/6	74/6
AMP INC	46/6	46/4
AMPCO PITT	13/5	13/4
AMR CORP	42/0	41/7
AMR GEN CO	28/4	28/4
AMERADRA HE	29/1	29/0
ANTHEM, ELE	12/0	12/1
APACHE CP	7/7	7/7
APACHE PET	2/6	2/6
ARMSTRONG	37/4	37/4
ASHLAND OIL	69/6	69/6
ASIA PACIFIC	6/2	6/2
ATLS CORP	32/4	32/4
AVERY INT	21/7	22/0
AVIET INC	23/3	23/3
AVON PRODS	23/3	23/3
BCE INC	30/0	30/3
BELL-HOW	0	0
BELL-HOW A	0	0
BETH STEEL	18/7	19/0
BEVERLY	5/6	5/5
BNK BOSTON	24/4	24/3
BNK BSN-A	0	49/2
BNK N-YORK	31/1	31/1
BNK TR-NY	31/1	31/1
BNKAMERICA	10/0	10/0
BNKAM SPEC	6/7	7/0
BOEING CO	50/4	50/4
BOISE CASB	43/3	43/3
BORG	51/2	51/2
BOWATER	29/6	30/0
BR TELECOM	45/4	46/0
BRIGGS-STR	29/3	29/3
BRIST-RYER	39/4	39/4
BRUNSWICK	22/2	22/2
BRUNDY CP	13/3	13/3
C 3 INC	13/0	13/0
CABOT CORP	36/0	36/1
CAESARS WO	24/2	24/1
CA FREIGHT	21/6	22/0
CAS NAT NY	14/4	14/4
CAS-DOCKE	24/2	24/5
CATERPI TR	63/4	63/6
CEL IND	26/4	26/4
CBS	149/2	149/4
CENTEL CP	45/2	45/2
CHAMP INTL	33/2	33/6
CHAMP SPA	11/7	11/7
CHARTER CO	6/1	6/1

GEARHART	13	33	MURPHY OIL	31/3	31/2	SEALED AIR	42/6	42/5
GEN DATA	34/3	34/2	NAT INTERG	16/7	16/7	SEARS ROE	34/2	34/2
GEN DYNICS	54/5	54/4	NBI CORP	4/0	4/1	SERV CORP	21/5	21/5
GEN ELECT	40/0	39/7	NCR CORP	59/4	60/1	SA STH PAC	14/5	14/5
GEN HOST	10/6	10/6	NEN ENG EL	20/6	20/5	SIRSH LHMN	18/3	18/4
GEN INSUR	0	7/6	NEN PLA RE	14/1	14/0	SHELL TRAN	78/0	78/0
GEN INTR	52/6	52/5	SEBELL CO	36/4	36/2	SHER PLOW	46/4	46/2
GEN KILLS	44/2	44/0	SEBENT M	35/3	35/4	SHIRT INT	10/0	10/0
GEN MOTORS	76/4	76/5	NEWMONT GLD	31/1	38/0	SHWIK BEC	49/7	50/0
GEN SIGNAL	52/0	52/0	NICOR INC	28/6	28/6	SHAP ON TL	39/5	39/7
GENCORP	18/1	18/1	NL TMS	7/3	7/3	SOURCE CAP	36/2	36/3
GENETECH	0	29/2	MOBLE AFT	13/1	13/1	SOUTHERN	22/4	22/5
GENULINE PA	36/1	36/3	NORD RESOU	10/2	10/1	SPIERKY	13/0	13/0
GEI PUL-BO	0	75/7	NORTHROP	28/5	28/3	SQUARE D	52/3	52/2
GEORGI-PAC	37/7	38/1	NORTON	54/6	54/6	SQUIBB	57/7	57/5
GINK FL CL	3/4	3/4	NOVO IND	28/5	28/5	STALEY AE		
GLOBAL INC	1/1	1/1	NUCOR CORP	39/4	39/5	STEVENS JP	67/7	67/1
GOLDEN HEG	13/4	13/4	OKA NDS	1/2	1/2	SUM CO	57/5	57/5
GOODRICH	53/5	53/5	OCC PETRO	26/0	25/7	SUNDSTRAND	53/4	53/4
GOODTONE	61/4	62/0	OCEAN DRIL	20/4	20/6	SURSH INT	3/6	3/6
GOULD INC	13/5	13/5	ODGEN CORP	26/6	26/5	SUPER VAL	20/5	20/5
GRACE INC	25/3	25/4	ON ED CO	18/0	18/0	SOUTHWEST	16/6	16/6
GRAINERS	64/3	64/7	OHIO MATT	15/0	15/0	SW GAS	19/6	19/6
GRIFFIN INC	27/7	28/0	OLIN CORP	0	46/6	SW BELL	35/5	35/5
GROETZ	24/2	24/0	ONHICARE	0	7/3	TANDY CORP	44/7	45/0
GRUBMAN	20/2	20/3	ORION PICT	15/4	15/2	TDK	0	73/6
GULF RES-C	19/2	19/3	PAIME WEE	15/3	15/5	TECO-ENERG	21/7	21/7
GULF-WESTN	38/0	37/7	PAN AM	2/5	2/5	TEKTRONIX	24/6	25/5
HALLIBURTON	0	32/6	PANHANDLE	23/4	23/3	TELETYPE	339/6	339/8
HALLIDAY	16/4	16/4	PARK ELECT	0	17/6	TELEX CORP	46/6	47/0
HANNA WEN	27/2	27/0	PARKER DRI	3/7	3/7	TERADYNE	15/2	15/3
HARRIS-CP	26/1	28/1	PARKER HAM	35/1	34/7	TESORO PET	9/6	9/7
HARTHAUSE	26/2	26/2	PATRICK PET	3/6	3/7	TEX AMER B	2/7	2/7
HECLA MIN	13/4	13/3	PAYLESS CSH	19/1	19/2	TEX EAS TR	49/5	49/5
HEINZ JAC	39/7	39/5	PULLMAN CO	5/3	5/3	TEX IND	38/5	38/1
HEL CURTIS	34/1	34/2	PC INDS-96	8/0	8/0	TEXAS INST	45/1	45/1
HELU-PAYNE	22/7	23/1	PEN-CENTR	22/6	22/7	TEXTROW	24/5	24/5
HERGENS	46/6	46/6	PERMATEL	62/2	62/0	THOMPSON MED	18/7	18/7
HERRICK	3/7	3/7	PEOPLES ENL	13/2	73/4	TIDWATER	16/1	16/1
HERR-PACK	40/6	40/3	PEPSICO	34/1	34/0	TIGER INT	15/1	15/1
HICKEL CP	43/3	43/6	PFIZER	50/1	50/1	TIMKEN	76/3	76/3
HILLENBRND	33/3	33/5	PHILIPS DOD	39/4	39/4	TOPCHARK	30/4	30/5
HILTM HILL	87/6	88/0	PHILIP MOR	82/4	82/4	TOSCO	2/7	3/4
HITACHI	115/4	118/0	PHILLIPS PE	16/6	16/7	TOYS R US	35/7	35/7
HUNTER-HEA	34/6	34/6	PILLSBURY	38/2	38/3	TRANSCORP	30/7	30/7
HINDY-HARDY	17/2	17/2	PINNACLE V	24/2	24/5	TRANSCO ER	26/6	26/6
HOLIDAY C	25/2	25/3	PITN-BOMES	42/3	42/3	TRANSCO EX	6/3	6/3
HONE DEPOT	26/1	26/2	PITTSO	14/5	14/5	TRAVELLERS	33/2	33/3
HONE FED-S	22/3	22/5	POLAROID	31/3	31/4	TRINITY IN	33/6	33/6
HONDA MOTOR	31/0	142/0	PORTLAND CE	22/6	22/4	TW CORP	16/7	17/0
HOEYBUSH	68/3	68/4	PRIME COMP	15/6	15/7	TRANSWORLD	35/2	35/2
HOGGARTH INC	30/0	31/6	PRIME TMS	37/1	37/3	UTD BRAND	55/0	55/0
HOLSTON INC	26/0	26/0	PRIMERICA	24/3	24/3	UTD TECH	0	36/6
HUGHES SUP	26/0	26/6	PRIME CARG	73/3	73/4	UGI CORP	28/0	27/6
HUNDA TECH	110/2	110/1	PUEBLO INT	0	25/7	UNILEVER	54/4	54/4
ICI INDUST	32/4	32/4	PUGET SP-L	19/0	18/6	UNION-CARB	33/7	33/5
ICI PAMINA	7/9	7/1	PULTE HOME	6/6	6/6	UNION-CARB	22/5	22/4
ILL PAIR CO	17/2	17/4	QUAKER OAT	44/7	44/5	US SHOE	19/2	19/2
IMCO LTD	25/3	27/4	QUAKER COR	21/4	22/1	USK	51/4	51/4
INGERSOLL-RA	39/0	39/1	QUANTUM CR	77/4	77/0	US WEST	31/2	31/2
INTL POWER	40/4	40/4	RALS PURIN	71/1	71/1	VALERO-EN	6/7	6/6
JORDEN-SES	11/4	11/4	RENADA INC	16/4	6/4	VALLEY-EN	9/23	9/23
K PART CP	31/6	31/6	RANGER OIL	5/6	5/6	VARCO INTL	2/3	2/3
KALSER ALX	18/7	18/2	RAYCHEM	42/5	42/3	VARIAN-ASS	26/6	26/6
KELLOGG	51/1	51/4	RAYMARK	46/7	6/7	WAT-PAC	31/1	31/1
KERN WOOD	34/2	36/2	RAYTHEON	46/2	65/2			

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV.DATS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1425.9	1435.5	1425.3	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	1012.7	1012.7	1007.6	957.6
FT ALL SHR	921.72	921.72	916.75	870.22
FT GOV SEC	90.16	90.16	90.26	91.03
FT GOLD MN	197.8	197.8	196.3	237.3
FT MINES F	471.93	471.93	468.66	432.96
FT OIL	1818.3	1818.3	1799.2	1768.7
FT WLD DLR	128.06	128.87	128.17	128.44
FT WLD STG	101.91	101.14	110.49	101.83
FT WLD LOC	128.87	112.63	111.88	112.29

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS LOWER, TRACKING WALL STREET MOVES
LONDON, MAY 18, REUTER - SHARE PRICES WERE MOVING IN LINE
WITH WALL STREET'S FLUCTUATIONS IN LATE TRADING AND CONTINUED
LOWER ACROSS A BROAD FRONT. DEALERS SAID.

LOWERS ACROSS A BROAD FRONT, DEALERS SAID.
DEALERS SAID PRICES HERE HAD IMPROVED FROM EARLY LOWS BUOYED BY POSITIVE COMPANY RESULTS AND AN UNEXPECTED U.K. PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING SURPLUS IN APRIL BUT LATER RESUMED THEIR FALLS AS THE NEW YORK MARKET OPENED LOWER.

AT 1430 GMT THE FTSE 100 INDEX STOOD 13.5 POINTS DOWN AT 1,775.7 BUT WAS RISING AS WALL STREET IMPROVED FROM AN EARLY EIGHT POINT FALL. DEALERS SAID VOLUME WAS ABOVE AVERAGE FOR RECENT WEEKS WITH 450 MLN SHARES TRADED BY 1400 GMT.

DEALERS SAID PRICES WERE MARKED DOWN DURING THE MORNING SESSION TO REFLECT TESTERDAY'S 21-POINT FALL ON WALL STREET WHERE THERE WERE FEARS THAT U.S. INTEREST RATES MAY HAVE TO RISE TO STEW INFLATIONARY PRESSURES.

AFTER YESTERDAY'S CUT IN U.K. BASE RATES TO 7-1/2 PCT FROM EIGHT PCT, THEIR LOWEST LEVEL FOR 10 YEARS, STERLING LOST LITTLE FURTHER GROUND TODAY AND DEALERS SAID THIS POINTED TO THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S DILEMMA OVER THE POUND'S HIGH LEVEL WAS

THE PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING FIGURE WAS SEEN AS UNDERPINNING STERLING AS IT UNDERLINED THE HEALTHY STATE OF PUBLIC FINANCES.

London Gold

London Gold

LONDON, MAY 18, REUTER - GOLD BULLION CONSOLIDATED JUST BELOW MIDDAY SESSION HIGHS THIS AFTERNOON, WITH COMEX TRADING PROVIDING LITTLE DIRECTION, DEALERS SAID.

MARKET ACTIVITY SLOWENED THIS AFTERNOON, AFTER A BURST OF
SUSS BUYING AROUND MIDDAY LIFTED GOLD TO ITS HIGHS JUST BELOW

SWISS BUYING AROUND MIDDAY LIFTED GOLD TO ITS HIGHS JUST BELOW 455 DLRs. BUT HEAVY RESISTANCE WAS SEEN AT THIS LEVEL YET AGAIN, AND GOLD STILL SHOWS NO SIGN OF BREAKING OUT OF ITS CURRENT 450/455 DLR TECHNICAL RANGE, THEY SAID.

London Money Market

LONDON, MAY 18, REUTER - RATES WERE AS MUCH AS 1/4 POINT LOWER AT THE SHORT END ON A COMBINATION OF BULLISHNESS OVER BASE RATES AND COMFORTABLE LIQUIDITY CONDITIONS, DEALERS SAID.
STERLING HAS STEADIED ABOVE 3.12 MARKS, DESPITE THE HALF

STERLING HAS STEADIED ABOVE 5.17 MARKS, DESPITE THE HALF POINT CUT IN BASE RATES TRIGGERED BY THE BANK OF ENGLAND YESTERDAY. FEW OPERATORS ARE PREPARED TO BET AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT BEING FORCED INTO A FURTHER REDUCTION BY THE POUND'S STRENGTH. DEALERS SAID.

STRENGTH, DEALERS SAID.
HOWEVER, DOWNWARD PRESSURE WAS ONLY LIGHT IN THIN TRADING
TODAY, AND THE KET THREE MONTH RATE IS, IF ANYTHING, RATHER FIRM
AT 7-3/4 5/8 PCT GIVEN BASE RATES AT 7-1/2 PCT.

Foreign Exchange

Foreign Exchange

	DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	
OLR	-----	1.8570/80	1.7065/55	5.7720/40	OPG
STG	1.8575/85		3.1655/90	10.7155/7290	NOON
DMK	1.7006/7086	1.161/175		29.46/62	FIX
FFR	5.765/777	3.71575/7295	338.17/81		FIX
SFR	1.4210-4220	2.6402.6431	83.34/45	24.62/65	1300
HFL	1.9095	112.02	3.5495	33.105	FIX
EDJ	1.21999	.656792	2.08057	7.04301	CLSE
SDR	1.37634	0.731758	2.32554	7.87308	CLSE
YEN	125.45/55	233.02/34			NOON
SDR RATE		17/05/88	OTHERS	18.05.1988	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-TR
AUSTRALIA	282.8	280.2	280.2	278.4
AUSTRIA	201.7	205.2	205.2	215.4
BELGIUM	371.8	372.6	363.7	266.2
CANADA	352.7	354.0	354.0	350.7
DENMARK	384.0	373.4	370.2	336.6
FRANCE	319.4	315.3	316.0	288.5
GERMANY	163.3	163.7	157.4	156.6
HONG KONG	1825.9	1829.9	1826.9	1823.7
FINLAND	110.6	110.3	110.2	108.1
ITALY	378.1	378.5	380.2	404.7
JAPAN	1294.4	1290.2	1290.2	1269.3
NETHERLANDS	240.7	238.4	236.9	238.4
NEW ZEAL	94.5	94.3	94.3	98.9
NORWAY	448.6	448.6	440.1	479.2
SPAIN	556.2	555.9	554.7	521.9
SPAIN	244.5	241.4	239.7	247.8
SWEDEN	879.3	875.0	867.0	856.8
SWITZ	146.5	145.0	142.6	147.2
U.K.	536.2	532.7	534.3	526.3
U.S.A.	234.9	237.6	235.9	236.0
U.S.A.	451.1	454.0	451.4	451.2
WORLD	871.6	875.3	870.8	868.9
E.A.F.E.				

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Commercial Bank بنك التجاري

Wall Street Statistics "Composite"

NYSE HIGHEST VOLUME				AMEX HIGHEST VOLUME			
PILL ELAC	18 1/8		UNCH	DOME PETE	1 3/32		UNCH
LUCKY STR	64 1/4	+3 1/8		BAT INDS	7 1/2	-	1/16
MACMILLAN	70 1/4	+ 5 5/8		PALL CORP	28 1/4	+ 1/8	
HEALT-PACK	59 5/8	- 3 1/4		SOTNEY'S	17 3/4	- 3/8	
GUAK DATS	43 5/8	- 1		NY TIMES A	26 3/4	- 1/2	
STRAGE TEC	1 5/8		UNCH	AMDAHL CP	45 3/8	+ 1/2	
ZAYNE CP	25 1/4		UNCH	NS GROUP	13 1/2	- 1/4	
TISSOT	3		UNCH	FRUIT LOOK	1 1/4		UNCH
ATT	26 3/4	+	1/4	ALZA CORP	20 3/4	- 3/4	
STALEY.COM	36 1/4		UNCH	DANSON OIL	3/32		UNCH
NYSE LARGEST PER CENT CHANGE				AMEX LARGEST PER CENT CHANGE			
MACMILLAN	70 1/4	+19 5/8		FRIES ENT	2	+	1/4
WELSH RIF	35	+ 2 1/4		COMERGE	2 1/2	+ 1/4	
FOOTWILL	7 1/8	+ 3/8		REISTS A	30 1/4	+ 5/8	
VINCIGELLS	2 1/4	- 1/4		AMER PAC	3 1/8	- 3/8	
SEABALL	12	- 7/8		HNDERLITER	2 1/8	- 1/4	
NYSE VOLUME 119,964,200				AMEX VOLUME 4,457,724			
STOCKS UP 360				STOCKS UP 119			
STOCKS DOWN 739				STOCKS DOWN 290			
17-MAY NASDAQ VOLUME 124,547,500							

Wall Street Market Roundup

New York, May 18, Reuter — Wall Street stocks drifted lower at midday as Blue Chips fell near their lowest levels so far. Traders blamed fears over rising interest rates and a lack of investor conviction. Excluding dividend trades, volume was anemic, they added.

The Dow was down nine at 1978. Declining issues led gainers by about seven-to-three. Dividend-capture activity in Philadelphia Electric alone accounted for some 53 mln shares out of 119.6 mln on the big board. The

stock goes ex-dividend on Thursday.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY REUTERS FINANCIAL SERVICES

International Bond Highlights

LONDON — The Commonwealth Bank of Australia is issuing a 300 mld unsecured floating rate note paying 15 basis points over the six month London interbank offered rate and priced at par, lead manager Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd said. (RTZ0 0820)

London — Finland is issuing a 100 mld stg Eurobond due June 22, 2008 paying 10-1/8 pct and priced at par, lead manager Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd said. (RTTA 0813)

DUESSELDORF — A unit of Britain's 31 group Plc is issuing a 200 mld 10-year Eurobond with a 6-1/4 pct coupon priced at 99-3/4, lead manager Waskiowski Landesbank — Girozentrale (Westlb) said. (RTUF 1122)

Frankfurt — West German bankers expect the Soviet Union to issue its first mark Eurobond soon. The bond could be about 500 mld marks for 10 years, they said. (RTZ0 0803)

London — Pioneer Concrete Finance International Ltd is issuing a 150 mld Australian dlr convertible Eurobond due June 21, 1998 with an indicated coupon range of 9-1/4 to 9-3/4 pct and priced at par, lead manager Morgan Stanley International Ltd said. (RTZX 0831)

London — Banque Indosuez is issuing a 50 mld stg Eurobond due July 8, 1993, paying 9-5/8 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct, lead manager Samuel Montagu and Co Ltd said. (RTTK 1028)

Interbank Rates

	CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN	7-1/2 3/8	7-5/8 1/4	7-11/16 9/16
FFY	3-20/30	3-40/50	3-50/60
PAR	7-3/8 1/2	7-9/16 11/16	7-3/4 7/8
ZUR	1-5/8 1-7/8	2-1/4	2-1/4 2-1/2
BRX	3-85	6-00 1/8	6-1/16 3/16
ROM	9-3/4 10-1/4	10-5/8 11-1/8	10-3/4 11-1/4
AMS	3-7/8 4-0/0	3-15/16 4-1/16	4-1/8 4-1/8
TOK	3-2500 3125	3-9375 4-0000	3-8750 9375
ECU	****	5-81 5-93	6-06 6-18

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	6 1/8	6 9/16
3 months	6 3/16	6 5/8
6 months	6 3/16	6 11/16
1 year	6 1/8	6 5/8

BOMBAY

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	68	66	66	NICO	515	510	520
				GHFC	43	42.50	42	MUKAND	90	90	89
ACC	189	187	184	GRASIM	91.50	91	92	NOCIL	475	470	467.50
ASIA PAINT	155	151	152.50	GSFC	114	113	110.50	ORIKAT	36	35.50	35.25
BAJAJ AUTO	193.75	192.50	190	HIND LEVER	73	72.50	72	PEICO	35	34	35
BAR. RATON	247.50	245	240	HINDALCO	75	75	75	PFIZER	70	67	65.50
BOM. DTLING	122	121	117.50	HINDCOCA	81.25	78.25	80	PRE. AUTO	32	32	31
BR. BOND	90	88	90	HINDMOT	20.50	20.75	20.25	RAYMOND	47.50	47	45.50
BSE INDEX	539.42	536.63	540	IND ORG	24	23.75	22	RELIANCE	167	163	161.25
CENTURISP	850	845	840	INDRATON	63.50	63	62.50	SIEMENS	74	73	73
COLGATE	193.75	192.50	192.50	INDROL	166.50	163.75	160	SPIC	43.25	43.50	42
DEEPAKFERT	30	37.75	36	ITC	43	42	43	STONHILLS	260	240	240
EI. HOTEL	80	48	50	JKNATH	63	62.50	62.25	TATA PHR	245	245	240
ESKATF	165	163.75	160	L AND T	92.50	92	89.50	TATACHEN	72.50	74	72
ESSAR	18.50	17.50	18	MARHINDRA	62	59	60	TELCO	532.50	532.50	525
GAR. POLT	83.50	83.50	83	MASTERSHR	11	11	11	TISCO	735	730	723.75
GE. SHIP	27.35	27.25	26.85	NATHER PL	81	79.75	81	VOLTAS	290	290	290

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR.	CLOSE
AEI	207.8	207.8	
ALLIANZ VR	1305.0	1298.0	
BADENWERK	180.0	180.0	
BASF	242.8	243.0	
BAYER	262.3	261.6	
BAYER HYP	315.0	324.0	
BAYER VER	309.5	313.0	
BBC	314.0	308.0	
BHF	355.0	364.0	
BHW	501.5	505.5	
COMMERZB	216.7	218.0	
COMIT GUM	234.9	236.0	
DALMER BEN	576.5	581.0	
DEUTSC BNK	384.8	387.9	
DLV	350.0	349.0	
DRESDENER	237.8	239.0	
DT BABCOCK	140.2	141.8	
F&Z INDEX	437.16	437.05	
GOLDSTEIN	252.0	251.0	
HANSEATIC	407.0	407.0	
HOECHST AG	258.6	259.1	
HOESCH	130.5	133.0	
HORTEN	178.0	178.0	
HUSSEL HLD	425.0	439.0	
KALI SALZ	134.5	136.0	
KARSTADT	454.0	456.0	
KAUFHOF	383.0	393.0	
KLOECK H	100.1	101.5	
KLOECK W	87.00	85.60	
LIHDE	637.0	635.0	
LUFTHANSA	143.0	139.5	
MAN	174.0	172.7	
MANHESMAN	140.7	140.5	
MERCEDES	450.0	455.0	
METALLGES	292.5	287.5	
NIXDORF PF	485.0	485.2	
HORSK HYD	49.30	50.00	
PHILIP KOM	567.0	568.0	
PORSCHE	482.0	490.0	
PREUSSAG	163.0	163.0	
PMA	204.0	204.8	
RHEIT	189.5	188.5	
RHEIT P	178.5	182.0	
RHEINMETAL	253.0	251.0	
SALAMANDER	249.0	250.0	
SCHERING	472.8	474.0	
SEL	276.0	280.0	
SIEMENS	332.0	334.2	
THYSEN	134.8	135.0	
VEBA	270.5	271.5	
VEBA	259.0	258.5	
VEW	164.5	163.5	
VOLKSWAGEN	255.5	257.8	

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR.	CLOSE
C H TUNNEL	15.10	15.00	
CHUNG K	7.20	7.05	
CHINA GAS	16.00	16.10	
CHINA L-P	18.10	18.10	
CHINA MPT	21.40	21.80	
COSMO IND	0	4.30	
EVERED PRO	0	39	
FAR EAST C	0	79	
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00	
H S DEVELOP	8.75	8.70	
H S INDEX	516.18	490.23	
HANG LUNG	5.00	4.95	
HANG SENG	25.80	25.70	
HK ELEC CO	0	21.00	
HK KOWLOON	6.80	6.75	
HK LAND CO	7.45	7.35	
HK SHAN BK	6.20	6.25	
HK SHAN HT	4.27	4.30	
HK TELE CO	7.05	7.00	
HUTCH WHAM	8.35	8.15	
IND EQ PAC	10.90	10.70	
JARDINE M	11.70	11.70	
KOWLOON M	12.30	12.20	
NEW WORLD	10.50	10.20	
PAUL Y CON	2.25	2.12	
REALTY DEV	0	5.80	
S H K CO	1.84	1.82	
S H K PROP	10.60	10.40	
SIME DART	1.48	1.44	
STELLUX PFC	2.57	2.42	
SUIRE MAG	16.60	16.40	
T V B CO	14.10	14.10	
TAT CHEUNG	3.72	3.65	
UNION BANK	1.78	1.68	
WOCK MARD	0	7.25	
WOCK MARI	0	1.15	
WORLD INTL	3.07	3.07	

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE HIGHER IN ACTIVE TRADE. TOKYO, MAY 24, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED HIGHER DUE TO RENEWED BUYING IN LARGE CAPITAL ISSUES, MAINLY ON THE PART OF INVESTMENT TRUSTS, BROKERS SAID. WALL STREET'S OVERNIGHT DECLINE SPURRED MORNING SELLING, BUT FEARS LATER SUBSIDED.

"PEOPLE ARE NOT PAYING THAT MUCH ATTENTION TODAY TO WHAT IS GOING ON IN NEW YORK," SAID DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AKIO ISHIDA OF YASUDA TRUST FUND. "THIS WEEK THE TOKYO MARKET COULD STRONGLY REBOUND AND BURST THROUGH 28,000."

THE NIKKEI INDEX GAINED 62.90 POINTS, OR 0.23 PCT, TO 27,312.66. IT LOST 144.99 POINTS ON MONDAY, RISES ALMOST MATCHED FALLS IN VOLUME OF 1.1 BILLION SHARES AGAINST 700 MLDN.

CREDIT/LEASE, SHIPBUILDING, STEEL, WAREHOUSE, COMMUNICATIONS, MACHINERY, TEXTILE, TRADING COMPANY AND RUBBER ISSUES LED THE ADVANCE.

BANK, GAS, SECURITIES HOUSE, RETAIL, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, PHARMACEUTICAL, MINING, ELECTRICAL AND SOME MANUFACTURING SHARES DECLINED.

WALL STREET'S DULL SESSION OVERNIGHT IN THE LIGHTST TRADE SINCE NOVEMBER 27 RESULTED IN AN EARLY DROP IN SHARE PRICES, BROKERS SAID. BUT CONTINUED FAITH IN TOKYO MARKET FUNDAMENTALS HELPED THE INVESTORS SHAKE OFF INTEREST RATE JITTERS.

"MANY JAPANESE INVESTORS HAVE HIGH CASH POSITIONS AND ARE COMING IN," SAID BROKER ROBERT KARR OF NEW JAPAN SECURITIES.

"THE MARKET IS DIGESTING ALL KINDS OF BAD NEWS," KARR SAID. THAT INVESTORS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN LOOKING AT SURGING COMMODITY PRICES AS A BASIS TO BUY WHAT ARE KNOWN AS INFLATION-HEADING STOCKS, SUCH AS ALUMINUM PRODUCERS, NICKEL PRODUCERS AND OIL COMPANIES.

BUT HE SAID MANY INVESTORS BELIEVE THERE IS SPECULATIVE MONEY FLOWING INTO COMMODITY FUTURES, AND THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL OUTLOOK FOR INFLATION DOES NOT YET JUSTIFY BUYING SUCH STOCKS.

Hong Kong Stock Market Report

HONG KONG, MAY 24, REUTER - HONG KONG SHARE PRICES ROSE IN ACTIVE AFTERNOON TRADING, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FINISHED 25.95 POINTS HIGHER AT 2,516.18, AND THE BROADER-BASED HONG KONG INDEX ROSE 19.11 TO 1,664.31.

BROKERS SAID RUMOURS OF SHIPPING MAGNATE SIR T.K. PAO'S DEATH BOOSTED THE MARKET. THE RUMOURS WERE DENIED BY WORLD INTERNATIONAL (HOLDINGS) LTD, PAO'S FLAGSHIP COMPANY.

"THE PAO BLOCK OF COMPANIES CLOSED HIGHER ON THE RUMOURS BECAUSE PETER WOO AND HELMUT SOHREN, SEEN AS THE MOST VISIBLE SUCCESSORS, ARE PERCEIVED AS MORE AGGRESSIVE," A BROKER SAID.

AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY		
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	113.2	114.0
ARAB BANK		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	1.38	1.39
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.10	1.05
ARAB INSURANCE	0.98	0.98
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.94	0.90
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.53	0.58
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	2.10	2.10
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK		
ARAB PAPER CO/IND		
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	0.76	0.75
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM		
ARAB POTASH CO.	1.65	1.65
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	15.00	15.10
BANK OF JORDAN	1.00	0.95
BEILUNG INSURANCE	30.00	30.00
CATRO AMMAN BANK		
DAR AL SHAH PRESS		
DAR ALDAWA DV/INV	0.42	0.42
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.51	0.51
FINANCE/CREDIT/DO	4.10	3.95
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INSURANCE		
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.22	1.30
GENERAL MINING	0.79	0.79
HIMMEN MINERALS	1.20	1.32
HOLY LAND INS.		
IND./NATCO JERCO	1.42	1.42
INDUSTRIAL DEVLPT BHK	1.32	1.31
INDUSTRIAL COMM/AGR.	0.75	0.75
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.		
INTERN. CO/INV		
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.96	0.96
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
INTERMED/PETRI/CH		
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.75	0.75
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.60	13.60
JOR CERAMIC FACT		
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.06	1.10
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY		
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.		
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.72	0.70
JOR LIM BRICK		
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.49	2.49
JOR PAPER CARDBRIDGE		
JOR PHOSPHATE MTHS	2.25	2.28
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.		
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.		
JOR PRINTING/PACK.		
JOR SECUR. CORP	0.79	0.78
JOR SELPHO CHEM.		
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
JOR WORSTED MLL		
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00	1.00
JOR. PETROLEUM REF		
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.20	5.30
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	1.95	1.99
JORADAM GULF REAL	0.29	0.30
JORDAN DAIRY		
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.16	1.19
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	0.94	0.95
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	13.85	13.90
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.66	1.66
JORDAN TANNING	1.50	1.50
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	1.95	1.95
MACH/ENG/RENT/MAIN	0.77	0.76
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.40
MIDDEL EAST INS	60.00	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.55
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.80	1.80
NAT. CABLE/WIRE/MF		
NATIONAL ALITA INS.	0.45	0.40
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.72	0.72
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.25	0.25
NATIONAL STEEL		
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.52	0.28
PETRA BANK	2.05	1.97
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50	0.50
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.89	0.91
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.40	0.40
SHIPPING LINES		
SPINNING WEAVING		
THE HOUSING BANK	1.72	1.71
UNITED INSURANCE		
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND		
UNIVERSAL INS.	1.19	1.23
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.81	0.73
TARMOLK INSURANCE	1.07	1.07

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	82.00	84.00
STOCK						
AC-A	8.30	8.40		LC-B	.45	.47
AC-B	3.45	3.50	3.55	LC-C	.47	.48
ANS	2.65	2.70	2.65	PK-A	.39	.40
PER-A	34.50	35.00		PK-B	.40	.41
GLO	175.00	175.00	175.00	PK-C	.41	.41
PLDT	175.00	175.00	175.00	PK-D	.41	.41
KPSI-A	1.66	1.70		PK-E	.41	.41
SHC-A	143.00	144.00	143.00	PK-F	.41	.41
SHC-B	185.00			PK-G	.41	.41
MINING SECTOR				PK-H	.41	.41
APX-A	.034	.037	.037	PK-I	.41	.41
APX-B	.037	.038	.037	PK-J	.41	.41
AT-A	21.75	22.00	22.50	PK-K	.41	.41

Manila Stock Market Report

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	82.50	86.00
SHC-A <td>143.00</td> <td>144.00</td> <td>143.00</td> <td>BC-B<td>85.00</td><td>87.50</td></td>	143.00	144.00	143.00	BC-B <td>85.00</td> <td>87.50</td>	85.00	87.50
SHC-B <td>180.00</td> <td>185.00</td> <td>184.00</td> <td>LC-A<td>.45</td><td>.46</td></td>	180.00	185.00	184.00	LC-A <td>.45</td> <td>.46</td>	.45	.46
SH-TIRE <td>29.50</td> <td>30.50</td> <td></td> <td>LC-B<td>.47</td><td>.48</td></td>	29.50	30.50		LC-B <td>.47</td> <td>.48</td>	.47	.48
PLDT <td>175.00</td> <td>176.00</td> <td>175.00</td> <td>ZIP<td>.013</td><td>.014</td></td>	175.00	176.00	175.00	ZIP <td>.013</td> <td>.014</td>	.013	.014
ANSOR <td>3.45</td> <td>3.50</td> <td>3.60</td> <th colspan="3">OIL SECTOR</th>	3.45	3.50	3.60	OIL SECTOR		
AC-A <td>8.40</td> <td>8.50</td> <td>8.20</td> <th>STOCK</th> <th>BUY</th> <th>SELL</th>	8.40	8.50	8.20	STOCK	BUY	SELL
GLO <td>34.50</td> <td>35.00</td> <td>34.50</td> <td>BP-A<td>.016<td>.017</td></td></td>	34.50	35.00	34.50	BP-A <td>.016<td>.017</td></td>	.016 <td>.017</td>	.017
FER-B <td>2.65</td> <td>2.70</td> <td>2.70</td> <td>BP-B<td>.016<td>.017</td></td></td>	2.65	2.70	2.70	BP-B <td>.016<td>.017</td></td>	.016 <td>.017</td>	.017
FER-B <td>2.70</td> <td>2.75</td> <td>2.75</td> <td>LRC-A<td></td><td>.0026</td></td>	2.70	2.75	2.75	LRC-A <td></td> <td>.0026</td>		.0026
MINING SECTOR				LRC-B <td></td> <td>.003</td>		.003
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPM-A <td>.041</td> <td>.042</td>	.041	.042
APX-A <td>.036</td> <td>.037</td> <td>.037</td> <td>OPM-B<td>.042</td><td>.043</td></td>	.036	.037	.037	OPM-B <td>.042</td> <td>.043</td>	.042	.043
APX-B <td>.036</td> <td>.037</td> <td>.038</td> <td>OV-A<td>.033</td><td>.034</td></td>	.036	.037	.038	OV-A <td>.033</td> <td>.034</td>	.033	.034
AT-A <td>21.50</td> <td>21.75</td> <td>22.75</td> <td>OV-B<td>.033</td><td>.034</td></td>	21.50	21.75	22.75	OV-B <td>.033</td> <td>.034</td>	.033	.034
AT-B <td>24.00</td> <td>25.00</td> <td>24.00</td> <td>TA<td>.023</td><td>.024</td></td>	24.00	25.00	24.00	TA <td>.023</td> <td>.024</td>	.023	.024

Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION			
	SHARES.	VALUE	CHANGES
C/I	769,810	6,748,660	D 2.20
MINING	247,825,760	12,234,905	O 97.03
OILS	104,730,000	2,172,050	W 0.183
TOTAL	353,345,570	21,155,615	N 13.28

Trade figures bolster dollar, gold dips

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters). Fears that the US economy might be overheating worried stock markets today.

Retreats in share values in Tokyo and London followed a 21-point, Tuesday fall on Wall Street.

Instead of buoying Wall Street, news on Tuesday of a big drop in the US trade deficit had prompted concern lest America's economy was expanding too fast and interest rates might have to go up to damp down inflation.

Other markets around the globe took their cue from Wall Street—it does seem like interest

rates in the US are on their way up," said broker Norio Omachi of Sanyo Securities in Tokyo where the Nikkei stocks index lost 52.40 points or 0.19 per cent to close at 27,767.58.

London's FTSE index of 100 British blue chips was down 15 in early business below 1,775.

But London analysts such as Nicholas Knight at brokerage James Capel thought a firmer dollar could help stock markets higher later in the day.

The dollar was buoyed by the news that the US trade gap in March shrank to \$9.75 billion,

after nearly 14 billion in February.

In European trading it touched 1.7050 West German marks and 125.50 yen, at its best against the mark since February and against the yen since mid-April.

Rates

Money markets dislike higher interest rates because they crimp business activity and profits, restraining consumer spending and putting up the cost of corporate borrowing.

Underlying last autumn's financial crash was the fear that the huge US trade gap would cause a

run on the dollar and force interest rates sharply up to prop the US currency.

Worries about the dollar are now abated, but the concern is that interest rates, brought down after the crash to minimise what was seen then as a danger of recession, may now have to go up to keep inflation at bay.

Lower

French shares opened lower, with the Paris bourse indicator 0.80 per cent lower, on what dealers said were worries about US interest rates. Frankfurt shares also eased.

Earlier, the Sydney stock market gained, helped by good profits reports by Australian firms. The Australian All-Ordinaries index ended 14.3 up at 1,453.4.

But Hong Kong stocks closed barely changed.

Inflation fears underpinned gold, although a morning setting in the London bullion market at \$452.70 an ounce was below \$455 touched on Tuesday.

The pound sterling was steady at new, lower levels just under \$1.86 and 3.17 marks following British interest rate cuts on Tuesday.

Washington 'must act to curb consumer demand'

World economic outlook bright, says Baker

PARIS, May 18, (AP). Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III said today the world economic outlook was bright, but the US trading partners needed to move faster with economic reforms.

He said South Korea, Taiwan and other rapidly growing Asian economies were hurting efforts to correct world trade imbalances by failing to deregulate their domestic markets and make them more open to foreign exporters and investors.

"Their (trade) surpluses, particularly in the case of Korea and Taiwan, are impeding the adjustment of global imbalances and adding to protectionist pressures," Baker told trade and finance ministers from 24 leading industrial nations.

Citing the US Commerce Department's report yesterday of an unexpectedly large drop in the March US trade deficit, Baker said prospects were good for keeping the world economy on an even keel.

"While the near-term economic situation looks encouraging, we need to maintain this momentum in the medium term," he told the opening session of a two-day ministerial meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Copies of his remarks to the closed-door meeting were made available afterward.

Strength

Nigel Lawson, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, also underscored recent signs of strength in the world economy.

"The world economy is doing better than most people predicted," he told the meeting.

Lawson added, however, that in order to further cut its trade

deficit Washington must act to curb consumer demand, which he said was "rising uncomfortably fast." He said there should be no further decline in the US dollar.

Baker praised Japan, West Germany and Britain for making economic adjustments that have helped to prevent last October's stock market crash from pushing the world economy into a recession.

However, he added, European nations need to reduce their high unemployment and promote faster economic growth, while Japan should ensure greater foreign access to its financial markets.

Baker said the administration of US President Ronald Reagan had contributed to helping the world economy by cutting its budget deficit last year, boosting exports and increasing the consumer savings rate.

Lower He said the US general budget deficit, including state and local governments, had now fallen to a level lower than the average for the OECD nations as a group.

In remarks following Baker's, European and Japanese officials struck a similarly upbeat tone. But they stressed the Reagan administration should do more to reduce the federal budget gap.

"Efforts by the United States to reduce its budget deficit and by the European countries to attain robust economic growth are indispensable," said Soussuke Uno, the Japanese foreign minister.

Uno echoed Baker's call for South Korea and other newly industrialised nations to play a greater role in efforts to coordinate world economic policies. He



James Baker III (left), the US Treasury Secretary and American Secretary of Commerce C. William Verity attend the 27th meeting of the OECD council in Paris, yesterday. Ministers from 24 non-communist industrial nations began two days of talks on the world economy. (Reuters wirephoto)

said the major economic powers should "establish a dialogue of a general nature" with these countries.

The OECD meeting was expected to focus also on efforts to reduce government subsidies to farmers and to cut down on the accumulation of farm product surpluses.

Baker said the best way to coordinate reforms in agriculture was through the global trade

liberalisation talks now getting under way in Geneva.

"All countries, however, are responsible for the ultimate success of the round, not simply the industrial nations," he said.

A report by the OECD released this week estimated world farm subsidies averaged \$246 billion a year in the period 1984-86, double the level five years earlier.

Over that period, European

Economic Community (EEC) nations boosted subsidies to an average 49 per cent of the price of farm products from 36 per cent.

US subsidies rose from 15 per cent to 35 per cent.

US delegates, seeking to breathe life into President Reagan's proposal to phase out all subsidies within 10 years, pressed the European Economic Community for a specific timetable.

Foreign capital enjoys free movement in the GCC countries

Focus on new development strategy in the Gulf

IN the past few years a new development strategy has been unfolding in the Gulf with the main emphasis put on industrialisation and economic diversification. Public sector led growth and over-dependence on oil is gradually giving way to private sector initiatives and the build-up of diversified production base.

Even though the six Gulf countries still comprise one of the most important import markets in the world, the regional market has been greatly reduced in recent years and become highly competitive as well.

Dealing with the region as simply a residual market for foreign exports of goods and services is less viable now than what it used to be before.

Foreign companies involved in export trade to the Gulf countries are gradually realising the best way for them to maintain and possibly expand their share of these markets is to establish a presence in the region, according to GIB monthly economic report.

The Gulf countries would like their trading partners to help them in the process economic diversification by producing part of their current value of imports in the GCC states and become, in effect, the region's industrial partners.

A greater share of the local market in the future will go to those exporters who establish a

joint venture presence in the Gulf, while those who do not join in the diversification drive may find themselves at a disadvantage.

Protective tariffs are selectively provided for locally produced commodities when needed together with other incentives that include exemption from import taxes on material and equipment required for local production, exemption from taxes on profits, ready made industrial sites, low energy cost, abundance in inexpensive feedstocks, capital loans and grants, freedom of capital movement and repatriation of profits, restrictions on industrial licensing, and preferential purchasing of local products and services by the regional government.

Opportunities

Investment opportunities can be defined and made more commercially viable if both local and international investors understand the new development strategy of the region, take a long term view of the potentials available and be prepared to commit themselves today to establishing a base for future market growth.

What the Gulf countries are after is not simply the establishment of production units on a turnkey basis, but the transfer, adaptation and acquisition of know-how technology.

Even though financial resour-

ces are readily available in the region, foreign investors would, nevertheless, be encouraged to hold some equity participation in projects to ensure their long term commitment to the area.

The environment in the Gulf for joint ventures is different today than what it used to be in the 70s. Then investors could expect high returns on assets reaching in certain cases more than 50 per cent.

Now rates of return have assumed normal levels similar to what one would expect elsewhere in the world. Nevertheless, the region still provides better opportunities and more assured socio-political stability than most of the other developing regions.

It is also a free market, with little or no taxes and has not yet experienced the kind of bureaucratic bottlenecks that have hampered investments in other Third World countries.

Progress

The GCC countries have made substantial progress in removing trade barriers among themselves, allowing goods manufactured anywhere in the GCC free access to the entire six-country market.

Furthermore, the GCC has recently undertaken negotiations with the European Economic Community with the aim of achieving a free trade area encompassing the two regions. In any case new ventures in the

Gulf countries should not necessarily confine themselves to the 15 million or so GCC inhabitants. Export potential exists in the surrounding Arab states, Turkey, the Indian sub-continent and parts of East Africa. The Gulf region is strategically located for export oriented investments.

Foreign capital enjoys free movement in the various GCC countries, but it generally needs to be associated with national capital, or be part of a joint venture.

In general industrial licences are granted only to nationals. However, in Saudi Arabia foreign capital can be invested without the participation of Saudi Arabian nationals, but in these cases it does not benefit from the various incentives offered to foreign investment under the provisions of the Foreign Investment Code.

Saudi Arabia's Foreign Capital Investment Code offers various benefits to foreign capital invested in industry, including a ten year exemption from all income and company taxes, except the zakat (an alms-tax).

Eligible

The code stipulates that foreign participation must not exceed 75 per cent of the joint venture capital.

Industrial projects licensed under the code enjoy the same privileges granted to national

capital under the National Industries Protection and Encouragement Regulations.

However, in order to be eligible for the advantages of the Investment Code, foreign capital must be invested in economic development projects (excluding the extraction of oil) that fall within the priorities of the country's development plan, and must include an element of foreign technical expertise and know-how.

Raw materials, machinery, equipment and spare parts imported to the kingdom for newly established projects are exempted from customs duties. There are no export taxes and in certain cases local industries are afforded a protective duty of 20 per cent.

Other incentives include the extension of loans on favourable terms primarily through the Saudi Industrial Development Fund. Loans amounting up to 50 per cent of the project cost are granted at 2.5 per cent service charge with a maximum redemption period of 15 years.

Utilities are provided at low and subsidised prices, while factory sites are available for rent in the kingdom's large industrial estates for as little as \$0.20 per square metre annually. These areas provide as well back-up services including health centres, schools, fire-fighting and recreational facilities.

To be continued

US futures markets buoyed by Reagan report

WASHINGTON, May 18, (Reuters). US futures markets appear to have won an important skirmish against the New York Stock Exchange in what is viewed as a conflict between financial siblings.

A report by US financial regulators submitted to President Reagan on Monday sided with futures exchanges and their federal regulator on several crucial points and rejected a set of proposals endorsed by many on Wall Street and in Congress.

Need

"We at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission could not have asked for more," an official said.

By dismissing the need for any major legislation to correct market or regulatory imperfec-

tions, the administration's report diminished the already weak chances that Congress would intervene this year.

But the working group's inability to reach a consensus on several critical areas leaves the door open for legislative action next year, when Congress takes up a bill to extend the mandate of the CFTC.

Exchanges

What is more, futures leaders said things could change next January when Reagan leaves office.

There remains the possibility, for example, that either George Bush or Michael Dukakis, their parties' favourites, could take a different tack than Reagan, who is unabashedly opposed to government intervention in

markets.

The administration's working group, headed by Treasury Undersecretary George Gould, sided with futures exchanges in two important areas, programme trading and margins.

Programme trading refers to rapid, computerised transactions in stock and futures markets. One form, called index arbitrage, permits firms to lock in a virtually risk-free gain when the prices of stocks and stock index futures are unusually far apart.

Unrealistic

Wall Street brokerage houses, particularly those with many small clients, have blamed index arbitrage for helping drive stock prices down last October and

called for higher margins, or good-faith deposits, to quell speculation.

The administration's report proposed no curbs on programme trading. "It is unrealistic (and perhaps counterproductive) to try to undo the changes in financial markets brought about by improvements in telecommunications and computer technology," it said.

The study also said the role of "fundamental economic forces," rather than any trading strategy, should be emphasised when evaluating the October crash.

On margins, the working group aligned itself with futures leaders, saying they were high enough to protect the financial system.

London market

UK share prices moving in line with Wall Street's fluctuations

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters). Share prices were moving in line with Wall Street's fluctuations in late trading and continued lower across a broad front, dealers said.

Dealers said prices here had improved from early lows buoyed by positive company results and an unexpected UK public sector borrowing surplus in April but later resumed their falls as the New York market opened lower.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index stood 13.5 points down at 1,775.7 but was rising as Wall Street improved from an early eight point fall. Dealers said volume was above average for recent weeks with 450 mln shares traded by 1400 GMT.

Dealers said prices were marked down during the morning session to reflect yesterday's 21-point fall on Wall Street where there were fears that US interest rates may have to rise to stem inflationary pressures.

Lowest

After yesterday's cut in UK base rates to 7-1/2 per cent from eight per cent, their lowest level for 10 years, sterling lost little further ground today and dealers said this pointed to the fact that the government's dilemma over the pound's high level was still not solved.

The public sector borrowing figure was seen as underpinning sterling as it underlined the healthy state of public finances. Prices of large dollar earning stocks were marked down at the opening and remained depressed despite the fact that the US currency consolidated yesterday's gains on the smaller than expected US trade gap in March.

Allied-Lyons, which reported yesterday, was unchanged at 41p with the price supported by speculation concerning Bond Corp's seven per cent stake in the company, despite Allied's assertion yesterday that it does not fear predators.

Glaxo was 20p lower at 91p. Reuters lost 15p to 463 and ICI dropped 12p to 972.

Elsewhere among leading shares, the property sector was the star performer. Land Securities rose 32p to 594 and positive full-year figures and this led to large rises in other stocks in the sector. Mepc was 43p higher at 584, Peachey 14p firmer at 470 and Rosehaugh 11p up at 755.

Land Securities raised its full-year pretax profits to 133.6 mln stg from 120.6 mln the previous year. The figures included a larger than forecast revaluation in net asset value per share to 668p from 488p last year.

Strong

The company said it sees a strong property market despite speculation to the contrary following the stock market crash.

Brewers showed large price movements today but dealers said volume was not high in the sector. Bass shed 15p to 817 after reporting a rise in pre-tax profits to 197 mln stg for the half year to April 9, from 147 mln last year.

This was above forecasts but included some 30 mln stg from the sale of hotels.

Elsewhere in the brewing sector, shares met with mixed fortunes. Whitbread produced an 18 per cent rise in full-year pretax profit to 187.2 mln stg, which was around expectations, but the shares fell 11p to 297. Grand Met lost 4p to 505.

At 1540 GMT the FTSE stood 10.8 points lower at 1,778.4 and dealers said trading was tailing off in the absence of a firm lead from the New York market.

Scottish and Newcastle moved against the sector trend with an 8p rise to 300 amid renewed speculation that John Elliot's Elders IXL could make a move for the company.

The most active list was dominated by GEC in which over 20 mln shares changed hands for the second day running. The shares were 3p lower at 147 but analysts contacted by Reuters said they could not pin down the large volume in the stock.

There have been rumours in the market recently that GEC might be about to mount or be the subject of a bid but the analysts said there was no new evidence to confirm this.

Talks

Banks which moved higher this morning were mostly below their highs. News that Brazil had suspended talks with creditors banks on rescheduling 62 billion dlrs of debt left Natwest just 2p higher at 550 after 553 and Midland 3p up at 400 after 403.

Entertainments group Virgin was 8p lower at 92 after reporting interim pre-tax profits down to 14.46 mln stg from 18.48 mln in the first six months of last year.

Insurance stocks were mostly lower but Commercial Union moved 6p higher against the trend to 358. Rumours continue that Adelaide Steamship is adding to its last reported 4.7 per cent stake in commercial but dealers say there could also be interest in the company for potential US bidders.

At 1540 GMT the FTSE stood 10.8 points lower at 1,778.4 and dealers said trading was tailing off in the absence of a firm lead from the New York market.

Administration proposes modest steps in response to crash

WASHINGTON, May 18, (AP). President Ronald Reagan's working group on the stock market crash issued a report on Monday recommending a variety of modest financial market changes aimed at preventing a recurrence of last October's market crash.

The panel's major recommendation was that a "circuit breaker" mechanism be adopted to shut down trading in the stock and futures markets when extreme price movements threaten the orderly operation of the nation's financial markets.

The panel said "all trading should be halted for one hour on both stock and stock index futures markets if at any time the Dow Jones industrial average declines by 250 points from its closing level on the previous day."

Requirement

"There currently is no such requirement for all trading to be halted. On Black Monday, last Oct 19, the Dow average fell by a record 508 points."

In another area, the panel said it had been unable to agree on tougher margin, or credit, requirements to be imposed on investors, but it said it believed that the existing requirements were generally adequate.

The recommendations by the

working group were issued with criticism that the Reagan administration has not gone far enough to prevent a recurrence of last fall's market collapse.

Congressional critics have contended that the administration's free-market stance has prevented the government from instituting adequate safeguards to protect individual investors.

Panel

But the panel said in a letter transmitting its recommendations to President Reagan that it believed its proposals would promote the orderly operation of the nation's financial markets and "maintain the confidence of investors both large and small."

The working group was headed by Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III. It was created in March as a follow-up to a White House-appointed commission chaired by Wall Street investment banker Nicholas F. Brady.

In addition to Baker, members of the working group were Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, securing and exchange commission chairman David Ruder and Wendy Gramm, chairwoman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

The Fed, the Sec and the CFTC are the principal federal agencies, which currently regulate the financial markets.

The five members of the Brady Commission earlier this month issued a letter critical of the lack of government response to the sweeping reform proposals they had made in January. The statement urged quick government action before another stock market crisis occurs.

But the commission's proposals were not viewed favourably by the administration, which has been a strong opponent of what it viewed as any interference of the operation of free markets despite calls for greater action in Congress.

Both Sen. William Proxmire, a Wisconsin Democrat, who is chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, and Rep. Edward J. Markey, chairman of the House Subcommittee of the House Commerce Committee, have charged the administration is moving too slowly to correct serious problems.

Proxmire has introduced a bill that would create a three-member committee to coordinate regulation, consisting of the chairman of the Sec, CFTC and the Federal Reserve Board.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

The tenders summarised below are invited by the Central Tenders Committee on behalf of Government Ministries and other concerned authorities. The relevant documents may be obtained from the office of the Central Tenders Committee during office hours against payment of non-refundable fee as shown therein. Unless otherwise stipulated all relevant offers shall remain valid for a period of 90 days with effect from the closing date.

Tender No. 1-38/88
Tenders' internal No. 914/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Interior
Requirements: Supply & installation of inter, traffic signs
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday 19.6.88

Tender No. 1-38/88
Tenders' internal No. 914/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Interior
Requirements: Supply of road paints
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday 19.6.88

Tender No. 1-38/88
Tenders' internal No. 913/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Interior
Requirements: Supply of road paints
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday 19.6.88

Tender No. 1-38/88
Tenders' internal No. 913/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Communications
Requirements: Design, supply, installation, replacement & maintenance of fire fighting equipment & appliances for manual & automatic set in telecommunications & Jeeb Al-Shayookh centres
Relevant fee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday 19.6.88

This tender is open for contractors approved by General Fire Brigade Administrations.

Tender No. 1-38/88
Tenders' internal No. 908/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Education
Requirements: Supply of sports clothes
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday 19.6.88

Tender No. AA/MM/48-88
Tenders' internal No. 907/88
Concerned party: Public Authority for Agriculture & Fisheries Wealth Affairs

Requirements: Supply, preparing, construction & maintenance of irrigation net & system and main tank in Authority jurisdiction
Relevant fee: KD50/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 14.6.88

This tender is open for contractors having experience in such works.
Tender No. H-8/002
Tenders' internal No. 902/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Corp.
Requirements: Supply of fire fighting foam materials
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 19.6.88

Tender No. HMM-1-88
Tenders' internal No. 910/88
Concerned party: Public Authority for Civil Information
Requirements: Cleaning works of the Authority's main office and relevant branches & sites.
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Sunday 19.6.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Tazifco.
2. Kuwait Pritchard Co.
3. Kuwait Sweden Cleaning Services Co.
4. National Cleaning Co.
5. United Shipping Services & Contg. Co.
6. Abdul Hameed Salem Est.
7. Abdi Trdg. & Contg. Est.

(To be continued)

20. Abdul Aziz Abdulla Al Arfaj Gen Trdg. Est.
Tender No. S 2780
Tenders' internal No. 912/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply of steel plates
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Sunday 19.6.88

Tender No. PS/388
Tenders' internal No. 904/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Public Health
Requirements: Providing cleaning service, internal transport & refuse removal for Al Sabai Complex (1st Group)
Relevant fee: KD 100/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Sunday 19.6.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Tazifco.
2. Kuwait Pritchard Co.
3. Kuwait Sweden Cleaning Services Co.
4. National Cleaning Co.
5. United Shipping Services & Contg. Co.
6. Abdul Hameed Salem Est.
7. Abdi Trdg. & Contg. Est.

(To be continued)</



Packing up my troubles

By Keith Wells

PACKING up an entire household is like trying to put twenty cigarettes back in a packet, you always end up with some left over. After eleven years in Kuwait, trying to pack all my belongings is a sobering task. Come to think of it, eleven years in Kuwait is a sobering task. Where was I? Oh yes, packing. The trick is deciding what to take and what to leave behind.

The problem is the wife...no, no, no, I don't mean I can't decide whether to leave her behind or not. No, the problem is that she has different ideas as to what to take with us. I mean, I look at the first typewriter I ever had, an obviously valuable piece of history, a so-called antique, or, as she puts it, 'junk'.

We worked out a system, I put everything worth sending in one pile, everything to be thrown away in another. Trouble is, she just throws everything away, no matter which pile I put it in.

But it's bound to come in useful someday, I complained. "When are you going to need a broken string drill from the dhow harbour?" She asks sweetly. "Are you planning to build dhow when we get to Wales? Or are you thinking of giving up your Black and Decker?"

It's very decorative, we could hang it on the wall, it'll make a lovely conversation piece.

She holds up the broken wooden spool with a tattered bit of string dangling from one end. "Start talking," she said.

Problem

The next problem was my collection of rare and valuable genuine Gulf coral which she threw into the rubbish pile.

"You can't throw this away!" I remonstrated. "It's rare and valuable, real coral."

She held up a piece of concrete that must have slipped in there when I wasn't looking, and arched an eyebrow. Don't you just hate it when wives arch eyebrows? There ought to be a

law against eyebrow arching, it's so humiliating. But I fought on. "It took these little corals millions of years to produce that," I asserted, "and the colours were lovely."

"It's all gone white," she countered unimpassionately. "Maybe so, but I remember how pretty it was when I found it."

Amazed

So the rare and valuable coral joined the junk heap, a tragic end to a million years of hard work if you ask me. Think about it. One residence visa every five years means 200 thousand trips to the Immigration Department alone! And remember, years ago, it wasn't as efficient as it is today!

Then we came to her ten year collection of women's magazines... "why do you want these old magazines anyway, they're all rubbish, full of articles about how to avoid wrinkles, they're like guided missiles, always hit their target... how to choose your lipstick!" How can a grown-up adult worry about exterior-decorating her mouth? Knitting patterns! The only thing you ever knit is your eyebrows when I say you're spending too much!"

The next argument was over our unique collection of seddu cushions. "Tat!" she decided. Now I'll admit that the cushions suffered a little when our cats decided to sharpen their claws, and moths seem to have used them like technicolour pizzas, and maybe a little of the stuffing has leaked out, nevertheless, they are superb examples of a long tradition of bedouin weaving stretching back centuries with age old designs, natural dyes and ancient skills all united to produce exquisite examples of...

"Tat!" she said. Then she absolutely amazed me by packing my wedding suit. "It's a waste of space," I argued. "I used to weigh 47 kilos in those days, now I'm over 70,

I'll never get into it again without several very drastic operations."

"It'll remind you to diet," she said, "and how come you got so fat after I married you?"

"Inflation," I replied. "Just think, you've nearly doubled your investment." Naturally, when it came to her own rubbish, it was all treated like the Crown Jewels. "What's this?" I cried, holding up about twenty packets of brow powders.

"They're my spices," she said curtly. "You can't take them, the Customs will think its heroin or something, we'll be in dead trouble. You probably have to put things like that in quarantine for six months!"

goes wrong, while my wife shall have total credit for anything that goes right."

I returned gallantly to the fray. "Why do you want all these old magazines anyway, they're all rubbish, full of articles about how to avoid wrinkles. You don't avoid wrinkles, they're like guided missiles, always hit their target." I slipped through a couple of them. "Look, it's all nonsense. How to choose your lipstick! How can a grown-up adult worry about exterior-decorating her mouth? Knitting patterns! The only thing you ever knit is your eyebrows whenever I say we're spending too much!" What to look for in a man! Well, it's a bit late for that isn't it, old girl? You're stuck with me now, old Robbie Redford does get clean away."

It was a mistake, of course, using the words 'old girl' was like a red rag to a psychopathic bull. Before I knew it we were having a fight. For those who don't know, a fight is rather like Star Wars without the technology, just the nuclear explosions. By the time it was over I was sitting right in the throw-away pile along with the million-year-old coral and the bedouin tat.

Worry

Not to worry, I've got a master plan, I'll smuggle all my valuable stuff straight to the packers without telling her. That way I can get away with the really priceless stuff, the brass crucifix like the Kuwait Towers, the bags of worry beads that just need a bit of string, the rubber camel and the artificial mother-in-law of pearl kleenex box, the brass coffee pot, the complete collection of Kuwait Player's programmes 1977-1988, my black abaya, hardly worn, (a little undercover work you understand) and my pride and joy a two-seater, turbo-drive hubbly-bubbly pipe-shaped like the Sief Palace, (you put the tobacco in the clock), and as soon as you light up it plays the national anthem.

Let's imagine what treasured memories you acquire here?

Of course, she denied all responsibility, women always do, I think it must be one of the secret clauses in the marriage vows... I, Keith do hereby accept now and forever, all responsibility for everything that

The Art Buchwald Column

Poor Nancy

POOR Nancy Reagan. She's been trying for the past seven years to stop drugs from being distributed to the United States. All the while, government agencies working for her husband have been smuggling narcotics into this country. When she read the sworn Senate testimony about it she stormed into the President's office. "I don't believe it," she said to him. "All the time I kept telling the kids to 'just say no' the US was working in cahoots with the drug smugglers in Central America."

The President said, "Don't get so upset. I'm sure there is a mistake. If anyone in this administration were involved in the dope business, I would know about it."

"The pilots testified in the Senate that we were," Nancy said.

"Well, just hold it — I'll get to the bottom of this... Operator, get me Bill Casey at the CIA... HE'S WHAT? ...Nancy, Bill Casey is dead."

"They don't tell you anything. Are you aware

that the Contras depended on the drug money to keep the war going?" "You should not say that unless you have the facts. Nancy, I happen to know that the money for the Contras came from arms we sold to Iran."

"Who told you that, Ronnie?"

"George Bush. And if anyone knew what was going on George did."

"I don't like the idea of the United States being mixed up in a narcotics smuggling — it smells sleazy," Nancy said.

"I don't like it either, and if I find out who was behind it I'm going to chew him out."

"Why does the CIA have to exchange guns for cocaine?"

"Because if we don't stop the Sandinistas now, they'll be smoking grass on the beaches of San Diego. If the CIA was involved in

drug smuggling it was an honest mistake," the President said.

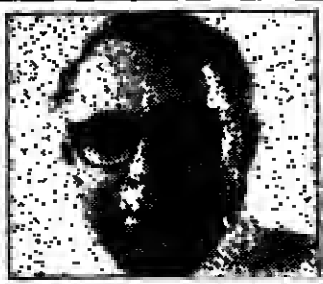
"Ronnie, I think you should go on the air and say that no person in your administration knows anything about the arms-for-dope transaction, and you are appalled that anyone in the government would okay it."

"That's a good idea. The Pentagon will bear me out. Operator, get me Secretary of Defence Weinberger on the phone... HE'S WHAT? ...Nancy, Weinberger has resigned."

"Why didn't he tell you?"

"No one tells me anything," the President complained.

"Well, this is a fine kettle of fish. I'm telling everyone to 'just say no' and the cloak-and-dagger people are loading up their planes with narcotics. I insist that you inform whoever is



involved with the Contras that drugs are not the way to fight communism."

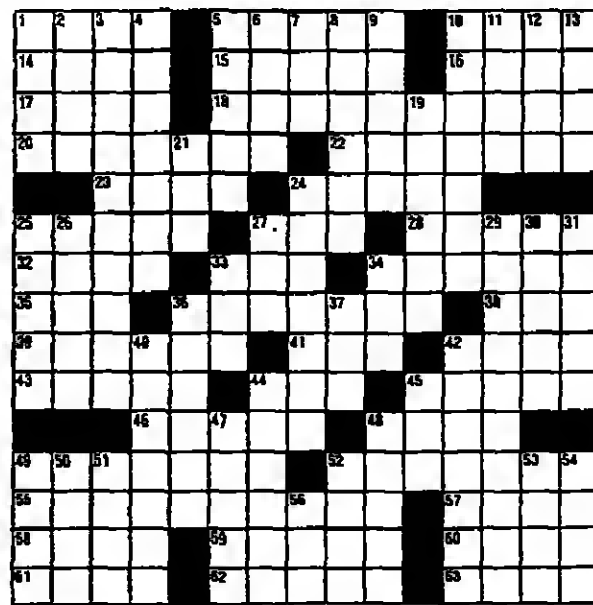
"That's good thinking, Nancy. Send Mike Deaver in and I'll dictate a memo."

"Mike Deaver is no longer in the White House."

"Caramba, no one told me that. Well, I know what I'll do. I will turn the whole thing over to the FBI and have them round up the usual suspects. Then I will have the Justice Department try them in a court of law and let a jury decide their guilt or innocence."

"And then what will you do, Ronnie?" "Then I'll pardon them. That's what Presidents are for." 1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Pocket change
 - 5 Waldorf or Caesar
 - 10 — de noche: fragrant shrub
 - 14 Celigary's prov.
 - 15 The Bluebook members
 - 18 Historic periods
 - 17 Sound of the surf
 - 18 Rookie of the year: 1951
 - 20 Fountain specialties
 - 22 Radioactive isotope of radon
 - 23 Play in poker
 - 24 — directed
 - 25 Divert
 - 27 London's prov.
 - 28 Silly ones
 - 32 Endless
 - 33 Preceder of corn and pod
 - 34 Sir —
 - 35 Hardwick
 - 36 Black cuckoo
 - 38 Court divider
 - 39 Mentioned as a fact
 - 41 DDE's opponent
 - 42 Choreographer
 - 43 Former coin of Germany
 - 44 Part of a bathing suit
 - 45 Fear
 - 46 Composer Anderson
 - 48 — tube
 - 49 American editor and politician: 1811-72
 - 52 Newspaper mekups
 - 55 Home-run leader: 1966-67
 - 57 Set of nested boxes
 - 58 Small wild ox
 - 59 Test a garment for fit
 - 60 Remove the cream
 - 61 "Our —" Wilder play
 - 62 Designer Simpson
 - 63 Laborer of yore
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Lincoln and Ford
 - 2 Baseball family
 - 3 Leader in RBT's: 1956
 - 4 Most complicated
 - 5 Basted
 - 6 Baba et al.
 - 7 Diamond —
 - 8 Finally
 - 9 Clean a winter windshield
 - 10 Conveyed an estate
 - 11 Islands off the Galway coast
 - 12 Dressing for a B.L.T. sandwich
 - 13 Business abbr.
 - 19 Floors, in France
 - 21 Pub order
 - 24 Whole
 - 25 Nautical command
 - 26 Latin American cloak
 - 27 Table scrap
 - 29 Baseball Hall of Fame name
 - 30 Town in Tuscany
 - 31 Outward
 - 33 Bushy clump, in Britain
 - 34 Thosa, in Paris
 - 38 Just
 - 37 Meadow
 - 40 System of aerial navigation
 - 42 Something to keep
 - 44 Aristocrat in czarist Russia
 - 45 Click beetle
 - 47 Gear for a gaucha

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

A TROJAN HORSE

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
 ♠ 7 6 2
 ♥ K 8
 ♦ J 4 3 2
 ♣ J 8 5 4

WEST
 ♠ K
 ♥ A Q 10 7 6 5 2
 ♦ 9 8 6
 ♣ 7 2

EAST
 ♠ 8 5 3
 ♥ 9 4 3
 ♦ 10 7 5
 ♣ 10 9 6 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q J 10 9 4
 ♥ J
 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ A K Q

The bidding:
 West North East South
 3♥ Pass Pass 4♦
 Pass 4NT Pass 6♦
 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠
 When you are declaring, those fellows to your left and right, the defenders, can often be made to be very helpful. But beware of Greeks bearing gifts—unsolicited cooperation could be tainted.

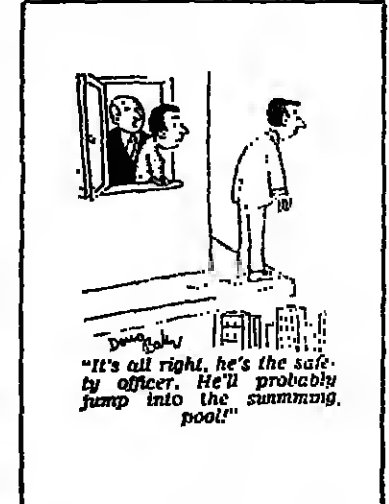
We do not pick up the sort of powerhouse that South was dealt often enough to have a firm opinion of what we would have done had we held the South cards. And since South was our lawyer, Lee Hazen of

New York, we would hesitate to offer an opinion for fear of a lawsuit. Nevertheless, we admit we would be tempted to do exactly what he did.

West laid down the ace of hearts, and declarer did not think much of his contract. Chances seemed to improve when West continued with a heart, so which South discarded a diamond. Declarer was in dummy for the first and last time, and it seemed that if East had started with a doubleton king of trumps, a finesse would land the slam.

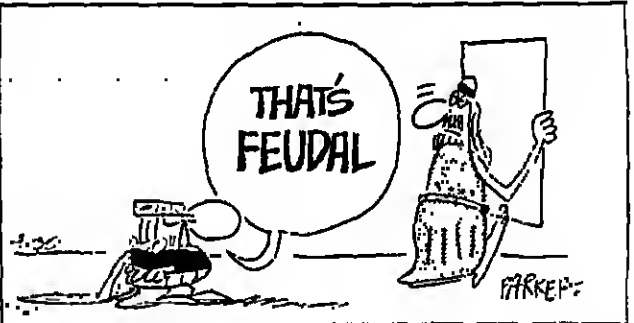
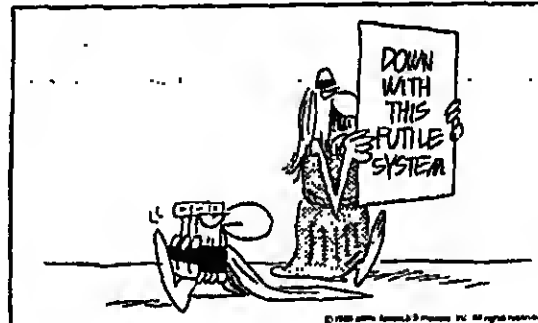
Hazen led a trump from the table and was about to finesse when a sudden thought stayed his hand. Never before in a rubber bridge game had West appeared to be a charitable person. Yet here, when declarer almost surely had no entry to dummy (South would not have leaped to a slam with two fast losers in hearts), he was being kind enough to provide an entry to the board for a trump finesse.

Without that entry, declarer would have been forced to lead the ace of trumps and hope for a miracle. Why, then, was West going out of his way to lend a helping hand to an old foe? Obviously, because the miracle would have succeeded. So Hazen changed his mind, shot up with the ace, collected the king and his slam bonus.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should try to avoid confusing what really is with what you would like to be. Mars' better influence will help you resolve a more personal problem. You should not lose your temper. Be reasonable.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should not spend too much time thinking of what has been and of what might have been. The Moon's better influence will help you to overcome a spell of dejection. Make sure you eat a balanced diet. Be a little more cautious.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should not concern yourself quite so much with secondary matters. The prospects are good but you should not expect something for nothing. You should not blame others for what you know is your own fault. Be reasonable.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will tend to be a little on the romantic side — no harm in that. You should show your sympathy with someone you care for. Do not post a letter until you have read it once more. Be attentive.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to have a pleasant day. You must not partake in intrigue or malicious gossip. Make sure you do not spend more than you know you can afford. Be reliable.



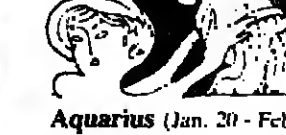
Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should look on the positive side. Do not allow others to make a fool of you. Mercury's better influence will help you to take care of yourself. Be respectful without being obsequious.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will find it harder to adjust to your surroundings. It will be difficult to save money just now, only try not to overspend. You should not try to do things by force rather than by persuasion. Be prompt.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be better able to distinguish what is from what you think ought to be. Mars' influence will help you to deal with a practical matter. Take a little more exercise, but nothing too violent. Be objective.



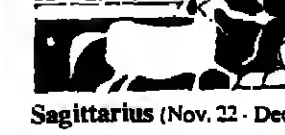
Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have something to be pleased about but no reason to be self-satisfied. A cold will get a lot worse if you do not treat it carefully. You should not just allow things to happen to you, have some purpose. Be careful.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You should not spend too much time thinking of what has been and of what might have been. The Moon's better influence will help you to overcome a spell of dejection. Make sure you eat a balanced diet. Be respectful without being obsequious.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

At work all will go well but you must not be superficial. Avoid spending too much time dealing with a secondary matter. Make sure you get plenty enough rest. Be a little more patient.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Venus' more favourable influence will help you to avoid doing something a little silly. You should spend a little more time dealing with personal matters. Avoid getting into an argument about something emotional like politics. Be tactful.

Dear Junior Readers,

Many of you are on holiday now. This is, of course, a time for you to play with your friends, enjoy your toys, and generally relax. But, you know, this is also a perfect time for you to help your mother and father around the house.

When you are in school, your parents make every effort to help you get ready for school and prepare for your studies. They understand that you are busy with your schoolwork and want to make things easier for you.

Since you have time now, you can do some special things for your parents. Try helping your mother prepare breakfast for the family in the morning. Learn how to cook a special dish for dinner. Polish your father's shoes before he leaves for his office. Rather than leaving your room for your mother to clean, tidy it up yourself.

You are an important member of your family, and what you do makes a difference. Use your holiday to practice giving your time to your parents.

Aunt Barbara

The Peaceful World

I hope someday the world will have peace
So the world's troubles will all cease.
There's beauty and peace in lakes, mountains
and rivers
While people in the cities of war get shivers.
Maybe someday the good lord will bring
What we want — peace, the very thing.
There will be prosperity under the sun,
And the people will all dance and have fun.
Civilization has brought everything from a comb
to a car
But this wicked civilization has also brought
war.
Now with all the nuclear weapons thereupon
There will be no peace under the sun.
The world's troubles will all cease,
If the earth is contented and has peace.

By Dominic D'Souza
Indian School Std. VII

AT the edge of a large forest, there lived a poor woodcutter. He was barely able to provide daily bread for his wife and two children, Hansel and Gretel. There came a time when he did not even know where the bread would come from, and he had no one to turn to in his need.

One night as he tossed restlessly in his bed, his wife said to him, "Listen, Husband, tomorrow morning, give each of the children a piece of bread, and take them deep into the forest, where it is thickest. Then build them a fire and leave them there. We can no longer feed them."

"No, Wife," said the husband. "I cannot do that. I cannot leave my own dear children alone in the forest. The wild animals would soon tear them apart."

"But if you don't do so," said the wife, "all of us will die of hunger." And she would not let him rest until he had agreed.

The two children, who had not been able to fall asleep because of their hunger, heard what their mother said. Gretel thought there was no hope for them, and began to cry pitifully, but Hansel said, "Be still, Gretel, and don't grieve. I know what to do." He got up, put on his coat, unlatched the lower door and stole outside. There were white pebbles on the ground, and in the light of the full moon, they gleamed as brightly as coins. Hansel bent down and filled his coat pockets with as many pebbles as they would hold. Then he returned to the house.

"Don't worry, Gretel," he said, "just go to sleep."

Hansel and Gretel

And he, too, got back into bed and went to sleep.

Early the next morning, even before the sun had risen, the mother woke them.

"Get up, children," she said. "We're going to the forest. Here's a bit of bread for each of you, but be prudent and save it for your midday meal." Because Hansel's pockets were filled with pebbles, Gretel stored the bread in her apron, and they started off into the forest. As they walked along, Hansel would stop frequently to look back. After a while, the father asked, "Why do you keep looking back and lagging behind? Pay attention and march forward!"

Their parents led them deeper into the forest than they had ever been before. Again a fire was built, and they were told to rest until evening, when their parents would return for them. At midday Gretel shared her bread with Hansel since he had scattered his along the way. Noon passed and evening came and went, but no one came for the poor children.

Hansel comforted Gretel, saying, "Wait until the moon rises, then I will be able to see the bits of bread I strewed along the path, and they will show us the way home."

The moon rose, but when Hansel went to look for the bread, there was none to be seen. The many birds in the forest had eaten it up. Hansel thought he could find his way home in any case and pulled Gretel along after him, but they were soon lost in the

great forest. They walked all night and the following day and were so tired that they lay down and fell asleep. All the next day, they wandered again, but they could not find their way out of the forest. They had nothing to eat, excepting a few berries they found on the ground, and were starving.

At noon on the third day, they came to a tiny house made of bread. Its roof was made of cake, and it had windows of transparent sugar.

"We can sit down here and eat our fill," said Hansel. "I'll have some of the roof, and you try a window, Gretel. It will be nice and sweet."

Hansel had already eaten a good piece of roof, and Gretel had eaten a pair of round windowpanes and had just broken out another, when they heard a sly voice calling from within the house.

"Nibble, nibble, nibble, crunch.
Who nibbles at my house for lunch?"

Hansel and Gretel were so startled they dropped what they had in their hands. At the same moment a small lady, as old as the hills, appeared in the doorway. She shook her head, saying, "Oh, you dear children, where have you dropped from? Come inside with me and you'll be well taken care of." She took each of them by a hand and led them into her house. She served them good food, pancakes with sugar, and apples, and nuts. Then she made up



two lovely little beds. Hansel and Gretel got into them and thought they were in heaven.

But the old lady was a wicked witch who ensnared children. She had built her house of bread to trap them, and whenever a child fell into her clutches, she killed it, cooked it and ate it, and those were her feast days. She was happy indeed that Hansel and Gretel had come her way. Very early the following morning, before they were even awake, she got up and went to their beds. "What a tasty snack they will make for me," she thought to

herself as she watched the sleeping children.

She took hold of Hansel, carried him to the barn and locked him into a stall. When he awoke he found himself surrounded by wire like a chicken in a coop. There was so little room, he could take no more than a few steps.

The old woman then shook Gretel to wake her and called, "Get up, Lazybones. Fetch water and go into the kitchen and cook something good to eat. Your brother is locked in a stall. I intend to fatten him up, and when he's fat enough, I shall eat him,

Now you must keep him well fed."

Just then the old witch called, "Gretel, come to the oven at once." When Gretel came to her, she said, "Look inside and see if the bread is baked nicely. My eyes are weak and I cannot see so far, and if you can't either, sit down on this board and I'll shove you inside so that you can have a look around."

Once she had Gretel in the oven, the witch intended to close the door and roast her so that she could eat her too. That is what the wicked witch had planned, but Gretel guessed what she was up to and said, "I don't know what you want me to do. Show me first. You sit down on the board, and I will push you in."

The old witch sat herself on the board. She was light and Gretel shoved her as far in as she could. Then quickly she closed the door and slid its iron bolt in place. The witch, in the oven, began to scream and wail, but Gretel ran off and the witch burned miserably to death.

Gretel had hurried to Hansel and opened his stall. He rushed out and they kissed each other happily.

The witch's house was filled with pearls and precious stones. The children stuffed their pockets, left the house and found their way home.

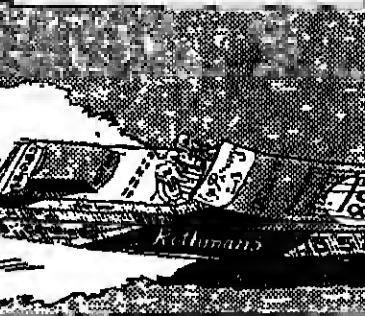
Their father was overjoyed to see them again. He had not had a single happy day since he had left them in the forest, and now his children were home and he was a rich man as well. The mother, however, was dead.

Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

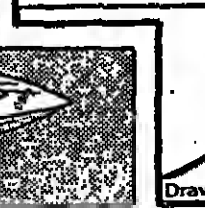
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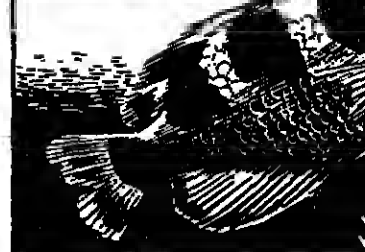


Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

THE WORLD'S MOST RESTRICTED FISH IS THE DEVIL'S HOLY PLURISH (CHIROCENTRUS DORSALIS), BECAUSE IT IS KNOWN FROM ONLY A SINGLE POOL IN THE NEVADA DESERT, USA. THE POOL IS 150 x 150 INCHES AND 6-10 FT (2.3-3.0 m) WIDE AND LONG. THIS FISH, 0.75 IN (2 cm) IN LENGTH, RELIES ON THIS UNIQUE HABITAT FOR ITS SURVIVAL.



THE ARCHER FISH (TOXOTES jaculator) OF THE FAR EAST HAS AN UNUSUAL METHOD OF CATCHING ITS PREY. IT LITERALLY SPITS DROPS OF WATER AT AN INSECT ABOVE THE SURFACE WITH A GREAT DEAL OF FORCE AND ACCURACY AND HAS BEEN KNOWN TO SHOOT DOWN ITS VICTIM IN FLIGHT.



THE ONLY FISH WITH THE DISTINCTION OF BEING NAMED AFTER A HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER IS THE JACK DANIELS (DOROSOMA OCTOZONATUM) OF THE MADAGASCAR. IT EARNED ITS COMMON NAME BY BEING SO AGGRESSIVE AND IS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR COMMUNITY TANKS!



Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

Traditional Victoria sandwich

Ingredients
Basic mixture described page 30
2 tablespoons plum jam

Equipment
2/8cm (8 in) sandwich tins
Wire cake rack

1. Make the creamed mixture described on page 30 and divide it between the two greased and lined sandwich tins. (See preparation of tins.)
2. When cooked, turn the two cakes out onto a wire rack and leave them to cool. Cover with a clean damp tea towel.
3. Spread two tablespoons of plum jam on one of the cakes and put the other cake on top to form a sandwich.
4. Sprinkle caster sugar on the top and serve.

Variations
To the basic creamed mixture you can add any one of the following or any of the flavourings suggested for the all-in-one method cakes on page 28. Lemon cake — grated rind of one

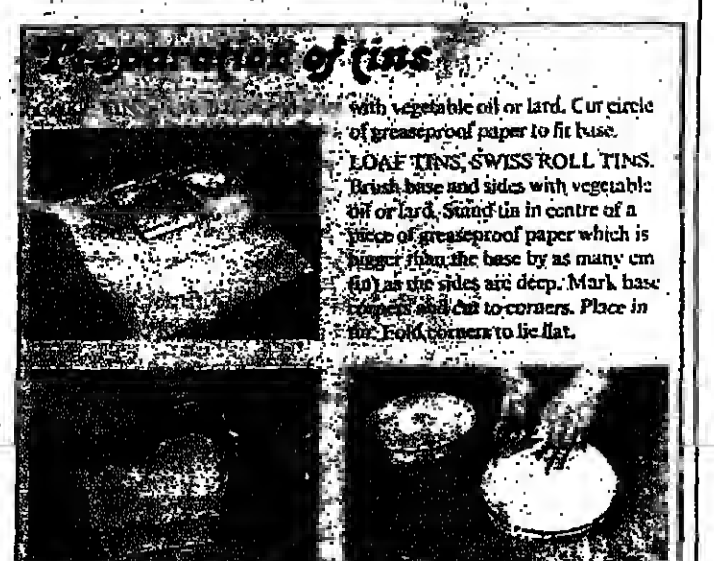
lemon. Almond cake — add 50g (2 oz) almonds and a few drops of ground almond essence.

Glaze icing
This is a water icing and the exact measurement of water and icing sugar is very important. This icing is not used for the centre of a cake but for the top and sides.

Ingredients
150 g (6 oz) icing sugar
5-6 x 5 ml teaspoonfuls cold water

Equipment
Basin, Wooden spoon, 5 ml teaspoon, Sieve, Table knife.

1. Sieve the icing sugar into a basin and add the water.
2. Mix well with a wooden spoon until the mixture will fall off the spoon and find its own level in the bowl. If you need more water, add it carefully drop by drop.
3. Spread the icing over the top of the sandwich cake and, if you wish, also round the sides.



The how of animals

How remoras can follow sharks

The remora, or shark-sucker, has always excited the wonder and curiosity of seafarers. This fish has a flat, oval disc on top of its head which it uses to fasten itself firmly to flat surfaces. This habit has earned the remora a certain reputation in legends.

In olden days sailors thought the remora had tremendous strength and could slow down and even stop a ship by fastening on to its keel. But these are only legends. The remora is about 40 centimetres long and could never stop any craft no matter how small.

Remoras merely use their suckers to be carried

along by large fish. They usually choose sharks and stay attached to their undersides during hunting expeditions. The remora then eats whatever is left over. Sometimes remoras swim along on their own power and hunt for food.

In some parts of the tropics fishermen have used remoras with a line attached to their tails to catch larger fish.

Remoras belong to the family Echeidae. There are about seven species found in all tropical and temperate seas.

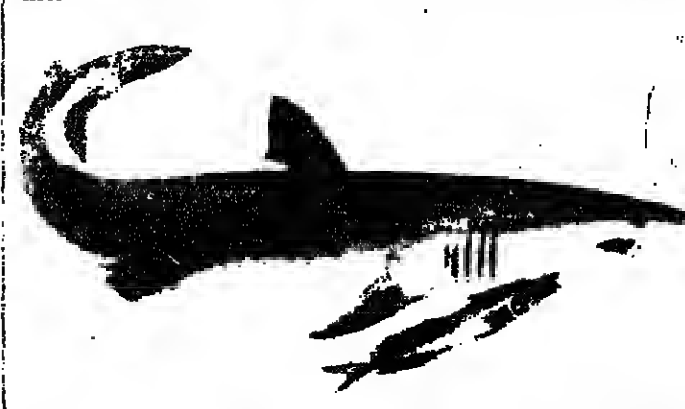
How animals are classified
In zoos the popular names of the animals on display are written on a label in front of their cages.

The label also carries the animal's scientific name in Latin. For example, on a lion's cage, the Latin name is *Panthera leo*; on a tiger's cage the name is *Panthera tigris*; and on the cage of a leopard the name is *Panthera pardus*.

Latin is the language accepted by scientists and zoologists throughout the world to avoid confusion. The Latin name for any animal consists of two words because the scientific classification of animals still follows the basic principle laid down by the botanist Carolus Linnaeus. In the examples we have already quoted the first part of the names is the word *Panthera*; this refers

to the genus of the animal. The second part of the name refers to the species. Members of an animal species that have many features in common come together in a genus. The *Panthera* genus, for example, includes the large cats which are unable to purr. Smaller cats, which can purr but do not roar, belong to the genus *Felis*. Both genera are in the family *Felidae*.

A number of genera form a family and several families form an order. The orders come together under classes and the classes fall into types. The total of all these forms the animal kingdom.



Classic peanut trick

The illusion:

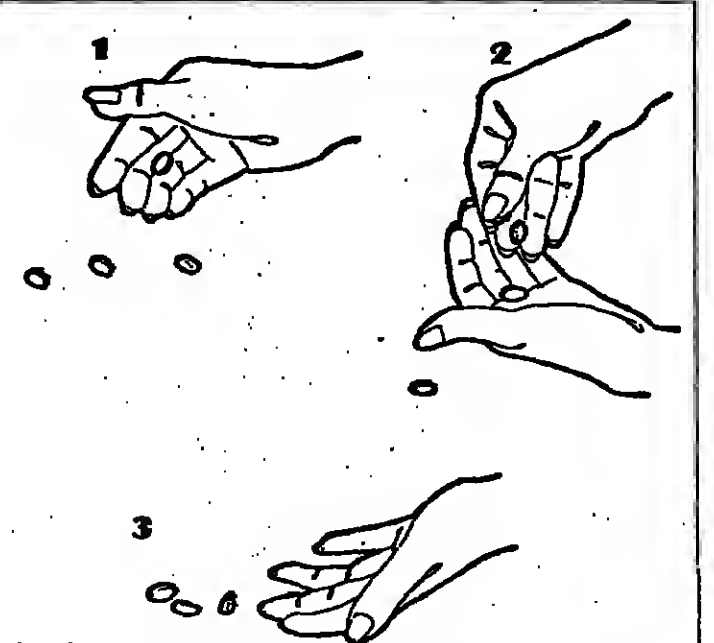
Three lonely peanuts are on the bar. You pick up two of them and openly drop them into your empty left hand. The third peanut is swallowed. Amazingly though, when you open your hand there are the three peanuts!

The preparation:

A minute or so before you do the trick, take a peanut and wedge it between the middle and ring fingers of your right hand. Let the fingers relax and they will curl into a perfectly natural look (1).

The trick:

Put three peanuts in a row in front of you. With your right fingertips, pick up one and drop it into your cupped left hand. A second nut is picked up and you drop it and the secret peanut together into your left hand which immediately closes (2). Don't move your right hand away from your left the second time any faster than you did the first time. Wiggle the left closed fingers a little, open the hand, and roll three peanuts out onto the bar (3). Nothing like having your peanut and eating it, too!



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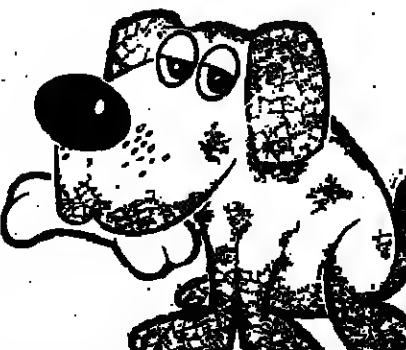
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آج کے سٹار

<p>برج سنبلہ (۲۷ اگست تا ۲۱ ستمبر)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج ثور (۱۹ اپریل تا ۱۴ مئی)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج جوزا (۲۰ مئی تا ۱۸ جون)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج دلو (۲۰ جنوری تا ۱۸ فروری)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج حوت (۱۹ فروری تا ۱۴ مارچ)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج سرطان (۲۱ جون تا ۲۰ جولائی)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج عقرب (۲۳ اکتوبر تا ۲۱ نومبر)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج قوس (۲۲ نومبر تا ۲۱ دسمبر)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>	<p>برج جدی (۲۰ دسمبر تا ۱۹ جنوری)</p> <p>آج آپ کا دن خوشخبری سے بھرپور ہے۔ اس روز کوئی نیا کام شروع کرنے کا بہترین وقت ہے۔</p>
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BARBIBBEAN SIDE FAVOURED TO BEAT ENGLAND IN ONE-DAY SERIES

Marshall may tip scales W. Indies' way



Marshall: among the best in the world

BIRMINGHAM, England, May 18, (Reuters): With fiery fast bowler Malcolm Marshall back to lead an impressive pace attack, West Indies will pose problems that they did in the World Cup when the one-day series begins tomorrow.

Marshall, considered by many to be the best bowler of real pace in the world, was absent from the World Cup when West Indies failed even to reach the semifinals.

Superb
A knee injury also sidelined Marshall for all but one of the matches in subsequent one-day series against India and Pakistan, but his form during the early part of the England tour indicates he is back to his superb best.

His presence in the side could also inspire more disciplined performances from the younger pacemen whose lapses under pressure during the World Cup cost them matches.

However, the two most likely to provide the main support, Patrick Patterson and Winston Benjamin, have injuries which could keep them out of the opening match at Edgbaston.

Should that be the case, Ian Bishop and Curtley Ambrose, each two metres tall, are lined up to play their first international games in England.

England have won six of their last seven one-day encounters with West Indies but that has had scant influence on the bookmakers who have listed the visitors as 1-2 favourites to win the three-match series with England quoted at 11-8.

The omission by the selectors of two former England captains and sometimes match-winners, Ian Botham and David Gower, has brought considerable criticism as has the inclusion of allrounder Derek Pringle and batsman Bill Athey, neither of whom impressed during England's recent tours.

Pringle, in particular, was taken apart by the West Indies batsmen during the World Cup when they slammed 83 runs off his 10 overs.

England have included Eddie Hemmings as a second spinner to John Emburey in their squad of 14 and the selectors may opt to play both in a permutation that proved successful in the World Cup. They can also call on the medium pace of Graham Gooch as an extra bowler.

Teams:
England (from) — Graham Gooch, Chris Broad, Mike Gatting (captain), Allan Lamb, Bill Athey, Monte Lynch, Derek Pringle, Paul Downton, John Emburey, Eddie Hemmings, Phillip DeFreitas, Graham Dilley, Gladstone Small, Neal Radford.

West Indies (probable) — Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes, Richie Richardson, Viv Richards (captain), Gus Logie, Carl Hooper, Jeff Dujon, Malcolm Marshall, Courtney Walsh, Curtley Ambrose, Ian Bishop.



Hick: 21 aces so far



Asif: brilliant century

Hick well on way to £100,000 prize

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters): Prodigious run-gatherer Graeme Hick, who could rewrite several cricket records this season, is well on the way to one that would earn him £100,000 (\$186,000).

A computer company has offered that prize for any player hitting 100 sixes in first-class matches this season — and Hick already has 21 to his name.

Eleven of them came during his epic 405 not out against Somerset at Taunton two weeks ago, an innings that also set him on the path towards joining the elite band of only seven other batsmen to have scored 1,000 runs before the end of May.

Prior to today's match, again against Somerset, Hick required 185 more runs to reach that target.

No-one has struck 100 sixes in a season before. The record is held by England all-rounder Ian Botham who hit 80 in the 1985 season.

At the start of the season, one leading firm of bookmakers was offering 50-1 against anyone hitting 100 sixes. After someone had laid a bet of £2,000 (\$3,720) and 21-year-old Hick had begun performing his slatted feats, the odds were slashed to 10-1.

Meanwhile, Asif Din's 131 and Winston Davis' five-wicket

howling shared the spotlight as Northamptonshire and Warwickshire opened a four-day Britannia Assurance county cricket championship match yesterday.

Asif's century, his best in county championship play, pulled Warwickshire out of trouble after slumping to 89 for four before lunch. By the close, the visitors had rallied to 320 for seven.

Davis caused the early problems, retiring Andy Lloyd, Andy Moles and Alvin Kalliancharan in a strong opening and finishing the day with five for 112 from 24 overs.

Kalliancharan has saved some of his best performances in the past for the Northants attack but separated leg before on the first ball.

Support
Asif, however, turned in a five-hour stand that included 20 boundaries. His best support came from Paul Smith's 47 in a fifth-wicket stand of 89 and Dermot Reeve helped him add 107 for the sixth wicket and stood at 75 not out when play was called.

Summary:
At Northampton: Warwickshire 320-7 (Asif Din 131, Dermot Reeve 75 not out vs Northamptonshire).

Barcelona to spend \$9m on new players

MADRID, May 18, (Reuters): Barcelona president Jose Luis Nunez plans to splash out more than \$9 million on new Spanish players to revamp his side for next season. Spanish state radio said yesterday.

Last year's runners-up, Barcelona look like finishing a disappointing sixth when this season ends on Sunday and Nunez is anxious to improve their fortunes next year.

Nunez, who two weeks ago bought Dutch star Johan Cruyff as coach, will turn mainly towards Basque side Real Sociedad who will finish second this year under British coach John Toshack.

Cost
The radio said his new signings will include Spain's top goalscorer Jose Bakero, who together with Real Sociedad teammate Takis Beguiristain will cost Barcelona \$3.4 million. Bakero has scored 17 times this season.

Sociedad defender Luis Lopez Rekarte will also wear the Catalan strip next season, while the Basques may in return be loaned Juan Antonio Gorko-Otxa (Barcelona pulled out of deal to buy him for Osasuna).

The radio said Nunez was also close to signing international striker Eloy Olaz from Sporting Gijon.

The club refused to comment on the deals, but Spanish media reported that vice-presidents from the two clubs reached agreement on the signings at a meeting in Barcelona on Monday night.

"It's a great opportunity," Beguiristain said in a radio interview.

Gullit shines as Milan edge United

MANCHESTER, England, May 18, (Reuters): New Italian soccer champions AC Milan ripped apart Manchester United with three goals within 19 minutes of the second half as they posted a 3-2 victory in a friendly soccer match last night.

European Footballer of the Year Ruud Gullit was the bright spark of an otherwise disappointing first half which produced no goals. But it was Pietro Virdis who opened the scoring a minute after the break and Argentine ace Claudio Borghi slammed in the net two to make it 3-0.

Twice
United, second in the English First Division this season, scored twice in the last 10 minutes through Jesper Olsen and Brian McClair.

In Dublin, a rest of the World XI beat European Champions space on the right. The Dundee United winger whipped the ball across sharply but Ally McCoist was offside when he headed the ball inches wide.

In the 11th minute, Valderrama found Arnaldo Iguaran who outpaced Alex McLeish before shooting across the face of the goal. And the South Americans then began to play some delightful soccer.

In the 23rd minute midfielder Redin sent a 25-yarder just past Leighton's left-hand post.

Cardiff clinch place in Cup
SWANSEA, Wales, May 18, (Reuters): Cardiff clinched a place in the European Cup Winners' Cup competition for the first time in 12 years when they beat Wrexham 2-0 in the Welsh Cup final yesterday.

Former Welsh international striker Alan Curtis set Cardiff on the path to victory with a 13th minute goal and Jimmy Gilligan added the second after 34 minutes.

Wrexham mounted several attacks in the second half but fine goalkeeping by George Wood kept them at bay.

Dutch defender

GOTEBORG, Sweden, May 18, (UPI): Dutch team Ajax's Swedish defender Peter Larsson will be sidelined for at least three months following a shoulder operation.

"It will take at least 12 weeks before I can go all-out again," Larsson, capped 24 times for Sweden, said. "The Dutch League starts in the middle of August and I hope to be fit by then."

Larsson has been troubled all season by a disjuncting shoulder bone but played bandaged and waited with the operation until after the European Cup Winners' Cup final last week.

Ajax then lost 1-0 to Belgian side Mechelen.

Larsson will miss Sweden's friendly matches against Spain June 1 and Brazil July 30.

Free transfer

LONDON, May 18, (UPI): Tottenham as given a free transfer to Nigerian international winger John Chidozie, who has played only one First Division match in the last two seasons.

Chidozie, 28, who cost £350,000 (\$650,000) from Notts County in August 1984, made his last appearance in August, 1986 and then was sidelined with a spinal fusion and has not played at all this season.

Lansford and Weiss help A's triumph

NEW YORK, May 18, (AP): Carney Lansford and Walt Weiss had three hits apiece and Mark McGwire hit his 11th homer as the streaking Oakland Athletics won for the 22nd time in their last 26 games last night, a 12-7 victory over the Boston Red Sox.

The A's pounded rookies Steve Ellsworth and John Trautwein for 11 runs in the first four innings and raised their road record to 18-4. Every Oakland starter had at least one hit in a 16-hit attack as the A's won their fourth game in a row and improved their overall record to 28-10, best in the Majors.

Elsewhere in the American League, Seattle defeated New York 6-2, Cleveland beat Chicago 6-2, Minnesota edged Kansas City 6-5, Detroit beat Milwaukee 4-2 and Texas battled Toronto for 14 innings before winning 7-6.

Oakland winning pitcher Steve Ontiveros allowed 12 hits and five runs in six innings. Pick Honeycutt pitched the last three innings for his fourth save.

Ron Hassey singled home two runs in the Oakland first and the A's made it 6-0 in the second on Dave Parker's two-run double and Dave Henderson's two-run single. Lansford drove in a run with a grounder in the third.

Mariners 6, Yankees 2
Billy Swift pitched a career

best three-hitter and Ken Phelps and Scott Bradley homered. The Yankees committed three throwing errors and the Mariners scored four unearned runs off previously unbeaten Richard Dotson, 5-1.

Indians 5, White Sox 2
Rich Yett and Doug Jones combined on a six-hitter and Andy Allanson hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning as Cleveland won for the sixth time in the last seven games. Yett scattered five hits over 6-2-3 innings and Jones earned his sixth save.

Twins 6, Royals 5
Gene Larkin singled home Kirby Puckett with the tying run with two out in the ninth inning and Mark Davidson also scored on a throwing error by Kansas City center fielder Willie Wilson.

Juan Berenguer earned the victory in relief of Bert Blyleven although he allowed Kansas City to take a 5-4 lead in the top of the eighth.

Tigers 8, Brewers 4
Rookie Paul Gibson scattered seven hits in seven innings in his first Major League start and Luis Salazar and Chet Lemon homered as Detroit snapped a three-game, losing streak.

Salazar hit his fifth home run of the season, a two-run shot off loser Juan Nieves in the fifth.

Rangers 7, Blue Jays 6
Oddibe McDowell walked with the bases loaded to force

home the tie-breaking run in the 14th inning and Scott Fletcher's sacrifice fly drove in what proved to be the winning run. Toronto fought back in the bottom of the inning when Tony Fernandez drove in Rance Mulliniks, but was unable to produce another run.

Cardinals 3, Cubs 0
Luis Alcaez's bad bop single scored two runs in the 11th inning and lifted the St. Louis Cardinals to a 3-0 victory over the Chicago Cubs.

With two outs in the 11th, Tom Brunansky, Bob Horner and Tony Peña hit singles. Alcaez and Jose Oquendo followed with singles off Greg Maddux, 6-3. Maddux had allowed only two hits through 10 innings.

In other National League games, Atlanta downed Cincinnati 6-2, Houston nipped Pittsburgh 3-2, New York blanked San Diego 1-0, Montreal edged Los Angeles 6-5 and Philadelphia blasted San Francisco 8-1.

St. Louis reliever Scott Terry, 2-1, pitched a perfect 10th inning and Todd Worrell retired the Cubs in order in the 12th for his League-leading 11th save. St. Louis starter John Tudor allowed three hits in nine innings.

Brewers 6, Reds 2
Dale Murphy, Andres Thomas and Gary Roenicke homered, leading the Atlanta Braves over the Cincinnati Reds

6-2. Rick Mahler, 3-4, gave up seven hits in 7 1-3 innings and improved his career record against the Reds to 12-2. Dennis Rasmussen was the loser.

Astros 3, Pirates 2
Mike Scott and two relievers combined for a three-hitter and the Houston Astros beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-2. Scott, 5-0, did not allow a hit until Rafael Belliard singled to lead off the sixth. He gave up three hits in seven innings and struck out 10, raising his National League-leader total to 73.

Mets 1, Padres 0
David Cone and Randy Myers teamed to pitch New York's eighth shutout and Keith Hernandez scored on a wild pitch in the eighth inning as the New York Mets beat the San Diego Padres 1-0. The Mets lead the majors in shutouts this season.

Expos 6, Dodgers 5
Rookie Johnny Paredes drove home three runs with a pair of two-out, bases-loaded singles and the Montreal Expos ended a four-game losing streak by beating the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-5. Paredes' two-run single off Fernando Valenzuela, 3-4, put Montreal ahead 5-4 in the fifth.

Phillies 8, Giants 1
Kevin Gross pitched a six-hitter and Von Hayes got three of Philadelphia's 15 hits as the Phillies beat the San Francisco Giants 8-1.

Barkley promises to KO Hearn

KERHONKSON, N.Y., May 18, (Reuters): Iran Barkley yesterday promised to knock out World Boxing Council middleweight champion Tommy Hearn in their June 6 title fight.

"I'll guarantee this much," said the 24-4 Barkley from his rural training camp, "the fight won't go the scheduled 12-round distance and I won't be the one laying on the floor. I'm going in and destroy him."

Barkley, who began training three weeks ago for the Las Vegas title bout with fellow

American Hearn, seemed to ooze confidence while engaging in the usual pre-fight hype.

The challenger said he will use whatever style is necessary to beat Hearn, the only fighter to ever win world titles in four divisions — middleweight, welterweight, junior middleweight and light heavyweight.

"I'll use any method I have to. I'll brawl, I'll box, I'll run. I'll do anything to win."

Barkley's handlers believe that the 29-year-old Hearn is beatable, though his only two losses in

47 fights came at the hands of great champions Sugar Ray Leonard and Marvellous Marvin Hagler.

"Tommy is not so awesome to us. Tommy's right hand is not as fearsome as people think and his legs are old," said Barkley's manager John Reetz.

"I think he'll get tired by the sixth round after being hit in the stomach for four or five rounds. We don't see the need for this fight to go to the distance," Reetz added.

Fenech to put title at stake

SYDNEY, May 18, (Reuters): Jeff Fenech of Australia will stage the first defence of his World Boxing Council (WBC) featherweight title against Trinidad's Tyrone Downes in Melbourne on August 12, promoter Bill Mordey said.

Downes, the number one WBC contender, has lost four of his 35 professional fights. Fenech is unbeaten in 20 fights.

Fenech won the title when he beat Puerto Rican Victor Callejas in March.

800 million Indians' Olympic hopes rest with P.T. Usha

NEW DELHI, May 18, (Reuters): The Olympic hopes of 800 million Indians rest on the slim shoulders of a hurdler known as P.T. Usha, who trains on a beach but has consistently struck gold in Asia and finished fourth at the 1984 Games.

But in Seoul this year a formidable array of Eastern bloc athletes stand in the way of Pillavallakandi Thekparambil Usha's dream of bettering her performance in the 400 metres hurdles. The 1984 Olympics were boycotted by the Soviet bloc.

"She is the only hope for us. So, in that sense she carries the aspirations of more people than anyone else at Seoul," said Indian Olympic Association member Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

India's Olympic record in men's hockey in which it has won eight golds, a silver and two bronzes.

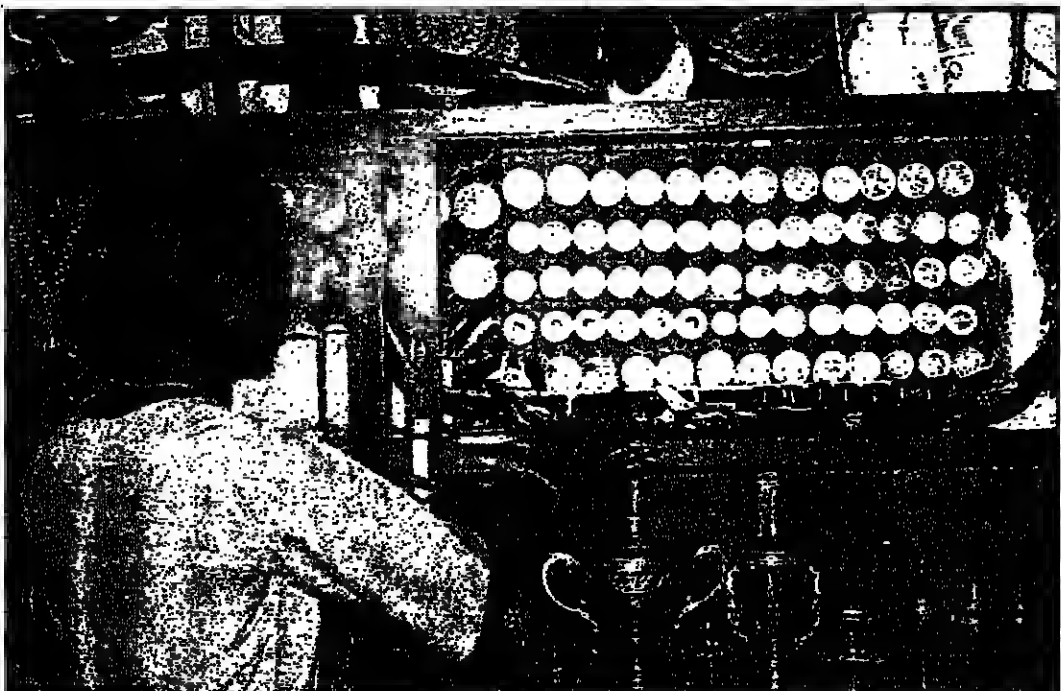
"But even our hockey standard has become so poor that we barely qualified," said Malhotra.

Only one individual Olympic medal has been won by India — a bantamweight wrestling gold at Helsinki in 1952.

"We don't do the selections in a proper way, there are not enough facilities and our training camps should begin four years before the Olympics, not four months," said Malhotra.

The pressure to win the first Olympic track medal for India appears to have little effect on Usha, 24, a lanky and soft-spoken employee of Indian railways.

P.T. still trains on a beach near her native Payyoli village in southern Kerala state where Madhavan Nambiar selected her more than 10 years ago to coach into one of Asia's outstanding athletes.



Usha looks at her medals and trophies.

"It's my favourite training spot. The vastness gives me a sense of freedom which I don't experience anywhere else," Usha said in her autobiography "Golden Girl."

She says she learned to run when she was 10, waiting near a mango orchard to pick up fruit that fell from the trees. She would race her three sisters for the fruit and usually won.

"I ate more than all my sisters put together," she said.

Usha's successes and a lack of comparable talent have forced India to enter her in as many events as possible to win medals. She has taken part in five or six

events at every Asian competition since 1984.

"The country has given me so much. I must repay it. If I don't, who will?" says Usha. She won five golds at the Asian Track and Field Championships in Jakarta in 1985 and four of India's five golds at Seoul Asian Games a year later.

India sent a contingent of more than 400 officials and competitors to the Asian Games provoking widespread criticism in Indian newspapers of the squad's size and selection.

Papers said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi telephoned Sports Minister Margaret Alva in the

middle of the Games to ask why India had not yet won any event.

Told by Alva that India would start winning once Usha's events began, Gandhi was reported to have said: "Then, send only Usha in future."

Usha herself said she was disturbed that India look more than 10 days to win a gold and that it spurred her to go all out on her first appearance, the 200 metres heats, where she set an Asian Games record.

"There was really no need for me to go flat out. But I just wanted to shake off the Indian blues," she said.

The challenge in 1988 will be



Nambiar gives some advice to Usha.

even tougher than that in Los Angeles for Usha, running against a full strength field of top East European 400 metres hurdlers and ranked in the lower half of the world's top 50 in the event.

But coach Nambiar believes Usha can dip below 54 seconds in the high voltage tension of an Olympic final after the years of pounding the sand near the village where she grew up in poverty.

Usha now has a large house, provided by a grateful government, and a chauffeur-driven car and has received many presents given by grateful fans for the gold medals she has won for India.

Her popularity extends to Seoul, where South Koreans chanted "Oosha, Oosha" every time she appeared on the track at the 1986 Asian Games.

"Wherever I went, I was mobbed by crowds," said Usha, adding that her room in the Asian Games village was stacked with gifts showered by her South Korean admirers.

Indians hope she will have a triumphant return to Seoul for the Olympics but the dreams are tempered by reality.

Malhotra said: "This is the tragedy of Indian sport ... that our wildest dream is for Usha to win a bronze."

Lakers and Mavericks struggle for victories

NEW YORK, May 18, (AP): The Los Angeles Lakers and Dallas Mavericks moved within a victory of the Western Conference finals with tight wins last night.

The defending champion Lakers once again struggled against Jab before squeezing out a 111-109 decision. Los Angeles, seeking to become the first NBA champion to repeat since 1969, won it on Michael Cooper's only basket of the game, a jump shot from near the top of the key with seven seconds remaining.

Dallas, which can wrap up the series at home in game 6 tomorrow night, beat short-handed Denver 110-106.

The Nuggets, who finished one game ahead of the Mavericks in the NBA's Midwest Division this season, were without Lafayette Lever and Jay Vincent, their second and third-leading scorers in the playoffs. Both are injured and Lever won't be available tomorrow night, either.

The sixth game of both best-of-seven semifinal series will be at Salt Lake City and at Dallas.

After Cooper's basket, the first game-winner of his 10-year career, put the Lakers ahead 110-109, James Worthy stole Marc Iavaroni's inbound pass. Worthy was fouled and made one free throw with five seconds left. He missed the second shot, however, and Utah hit was unable to get off a shot before time ran out.

Cooper, who scored only three points, hit his winning shot five seconds after Utah had taken a 109-108 lead on a baseline jumper by Thurl Bailey, who led the Jazz with 28 points.

On the ensuing possession, Magic Johnson penetrated the Utah defence and then fed the ball to Cooper, who was wide open outside.

Worthy led the Lakers with 27 points. Byron Scott added 24, Johnson contributed 20 and Mchal Thompson 18 for the Lakers, who have beaten the Jazz 32 of their last 35 games at the Forum.

Karl Malone finished with 27. **Mavericks 110, Nuggets 106** Poor free-throw shooting by the Nuggets down the stretch was the difference. Denver, the NBA's top shooting team from the line this season, missed seven straight free throws in the final even minutes.

Denver coach Doug Moe said even missed free throws "ended up killing us. We're a good free-throw shooting team. It was a luke."

Rolando Blackman had 18 of 24 points in the second half. Blackman's 18-foot jumper gave Dallas a 106-102 lead with 40 seconds left. After a pair of the free throws by Denver's Danny Chaynes, Aguirre's long-range basket from the right side made it 109-104.

Grove retains BF crown
ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., May 8, (Reuters): Calvin Grove last night won a unanimous 15-round decision from fellow American Myron Taylor to retain his International Boxing Federation (IBF) featherweight title.

Grove kept Taylor off balance throughout the fight, connecting with a barrage of left jabs, but never knocked the challenger down.

In the late rounds, Grove did appear to hurt Taylor, but he continued to score points against an obviously exhausted opponent.

This was the first defence for Grove, who won titles by stopping France's Antonio Rivera in the fourth round in January.

Grove's record is now 33-0, while Taylor's record dropped to 3-2.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

World conference

OTTAWA, May 18, (Reuters): Canada and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) will co-sponsor an international conference on doping in sport next month, government officials said yesterday.

Austria win

BUDAPEST, May 18, (Reuters): Austria beat Hungary 4-0 (half-time 1-0) in a friendly soccer match played in Budapest yesterday. Scorers: Rupert Marko (19th, 78th and 87th minutes), Ralph Hasenhuetl (56th).

Olympic talks

SEOUL, South Korea, May 18, (AP): The leaders of South Korea's three main opposition parties urged the government today to resume talks aimed at persuading North Korea to enter the Olympics, opening Sept 17 in Seoul.

Race cancelled

SAN FRANCISCO, May 18, (UPI): This year's San Francisco marathon has been cancelled because of a lack of support from the business and political community, organisers announced yesterday.

Title fight

SAN REMO, Italy, May 18, (AP): World Boxing Council junior middleweight champion Gianfranco Rosi, who is nursing a broken shoulder, will put his crown at stake against American challenger Donald Curry in this Italian Riviera resort July 8, organisers said today.

Australian jockey

LONDON, May 18, (Reuters): The Jockey Club, ruling body of British racing, is to apply for a transcript of proceedings in a Hong Kong court during which Australian jockey Gary Moore said he had secretly gambled on horses he rode.

Fourth title

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, May 18, (AP): Former three-time boxing champion Wilfredo Gomez of Puerto Rico has announced he will make a comeback July 20 in Miami, attempting to win a fourth title.

Top driver

INDIANAPOLIS, May 18, (AP): Stock car star Dale Earnhardt barely beat out drag racer Eddie Hill and fellow Nascar driver Bobby Allison in the first-quarter voting for the 1988 Driver of the Year.

Biggest Games

SEOUL, South Korea, May 18, (AP): Preliminary entries from 125 nations indicate more than 10,600 athletes will compete in this year's Summer Olympics, making them the biggest Games, the organisers announced today.

Brazil qualify

PERTH, May 18, (Reuters): Brazil became the third country to qualify for the Seoul Olympics from the water polo tournament here when they beat Guam 52-0 today. Hungary and France had already filled the first two of the five qualifying places from the tournament.

World side

JOHANNESBURG, May 18, (UPI): In a bid to prevent further anti-apartheid protests, rugby officials today said they wouldn't name the members of the world side set to tour South Africa in August until the players arrived.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA OVERCOME SPAIN

Edberg takes Sweden past W. Germany



Edberg: set up his team's victory

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, May 18, (Reuters): Stefan Edberg led favourites Sweden to a 2-1 win over West Germany in the World Team Cup tennis tournament yesterday, while Tomas Smid anchored Czechoslovakia's victory over Spain by the same score.

Edberg, promoted to world number two this week, comfortably beat Eric Jelen 6-1 6-4 and then partnered Anders Jarryd in a 6-4 6-4 defeat of Jelen and Patrick Kuehnen.

Decided

In between, Carl-Uwe Steeb had levelled the tie 1-1 by beating Jarryd 7-6 6-1.

The second tie was also decided in the concluding doubles, but was even closer before Smid, calling on his long experience, ensured victory for the defending champions.

Spain's Sanchez brothers had contrasting fortunes in the singles. Emilio losing 5-7 2-6 to Milan Strehler, while Javier beat Marian Vajda 6-3 7-6.

Doubles specialist Smid, playing in the tournament for the

seventh time, then guided the giant Strehler through a tough battle against Emilio Sanchez and Sergio Casal to win 4-6 6-4 7-5.

All square at 5-5 in the third set, the Czechoslovaks broke Casal's service in the next game to set up victory.

Smid then served out the match, gaining his first match point with an unreturnable service. The Spaniards saved that point, but could do nothing on the next as Smid hammered a return that ricocheted skywards off Sanchez's racket.

Strehler played in the tie as a replacement for world number seven Miloslav Mecir who was suffering from back trouble. Mecir said he would not be able to play in later matches here or in next week's French Open where he was a semifinalist last year.

Kent Carlsson sat out Sweden's match with an Achilles tendon injury and Argentina's Guillermo Perez-Roldan, Italian Open finalist last week, was also sidelined with a strained stomach muscle.

His substitute Eduardo Bengoechea went down 3-6 4-6 to France's Thierry Tulasne in a match held over from Monday. The result decided the tie 2-1 in France's favour.

The Blue Group teams — Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Spain and West Germany have a rest day tomorrow before playing their second round robin ties. The two group winners meet in Sunday's final.

Today's results:

United States beat France. Tim Mayotte (US) beat Thierry Tulasne (France) 6-4 6-6 2.

Aaron Krickstein (US) beat Tark Benhabiles (France) 6-4 6-7 (3-7) 6-2.

Switzerland beat Argentina 2-1. Eduardo Bengoechea (Argentina) beat Roland Stadler (Switzerland) 4-6 6-1 6-2.

Jakob Hlasek (Switzerland) beat Martin Jabe (Argentina) 6-4 6-0.

Hlasek-Claudio Mezzadri (Switzerland) beat Jaime Bengoechea 6-0 6-0.

Becker to quit tennis when 30

HAMBURG, West Germany, May 18, (UPI): Boris Becker in an interview published today said he will retire from tennis in 10 years when he is 30.

"I think 10 years in the top of the world ratings is enough," the West German star, who twice won the men's Wimbledon single title, told the Stern German illustrated weekly magazine.

Show

Becker, No. 6 on the world list, said when he stops playing tennis he might go into "show business, the glamour branch."

"I can imagine doing a talk show like Johnny Carson in America," he said. "I also plan to write a book or two."

"To write one," he added. "Without a ghost writer."

China clinch eighth straight team title

NIIGATA, Japan, May 18, (Reuters): China won its eighth straight men's team title in the Asian Table Tennis Championships today, beating North Korea by a surprisingly easy 5-1 margin.

But China's women, who had held the Asian team title for five consecutive tournaments, came only third, with South Korea beating North Korea 3-1 in the finals.

Maintained

China swept all team and individual titles at the last Asian championships, in 1986. But Chinese team officials had been saying for some time that their table-tennis supremacy could not be maintained forever with the North and South Koreans improving so quickly.

Current men's world champion Jiang Jialiang, playing impatiently and often carelessly, was responsible for the only set China lost to the North Koreans, and his team manager said later that Jiang had been suffering from a cough ever since he got to Japan.

Asked how he felt about his performance, Jiang only smiled and said: "I am happy with a 5-1 victory."

China's other men players, Chen Longcan and Xu Zengcai, overcame the North Koreans. The Chinese moved faster with more spin, speed and accuracy.

The women's final, a rare con-

frontation between the two Koreas, stirred political feelings and 60 riot police were stationed outside the Maibumet hall in this northern Japanese city in case of trouble.

But putting aside the intense animosity that still exists between the two Koreas, 35 years after the Korean war ended, North Korean team manager Li Jong-Ho presented the young South Korean women with the gold medals at the award ceremony.

Asked how she felt about receiving her medal from an official of the North Korean government, South Korean team captain Aelisa Lee said: "I have no particular feeling about it, but I was pleased that we were standing on top while the North Koreans and Chinese were beneath us."

North Korea is participating in the current tournament in spite of a ban on all North Korean official visits to Japan imposed in January after Japan accused Pyongyang of destroying a South Korean airliner with 115 people on board.

Effort

Japanese officials said an exception was made for the table-tennis team in an effort to encourage the North Koreans to attend the Seoul Olympics in September.

Japan came fourth in both men's and women's team events.

Waikato outclass Wales

HAMILTON, New Zealand, May 18, (Reuters): Waikato recovered from a slow start to beat Wales 28-19 in the first of eight matches in the Welsh Rugby Union tour of New Zealand today.

The home side scored three goals, a try and two penalties to Wales' goal, one try and three penalties in overcast and slippery conditions. Waikato led 13-7 at half-time.

Wales began well and dominated the first quarter of the match, but cracks began to

appear when Waikato, with several All Black prospects playing in front of the selectors, found their running rhythm and scored four tries, three of them converted by fullback Darryl Halligan. The fullback also kicked two penalties.

Welsh fullback Anthony Clement scored a try in the first half and flanker Richard Moriarty went over the Waikato line midway through the second period. Mark Ring booted three penalties and one conversion.

McEnroe seeded as Connors drops out

PARIS, May 18, (Reuters): Former world number one John McEnroe of the United States today gained the 16th and last seeded place in the draw for the French Open after compatriot Jimmy Connors and Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia pulled out.

McEnroe dropped from 14th to 19th place in the world computer rankings issued this week and looked like being unseeded in the French Open which starts on Monday because all the top players, except American Brad Gilbert, were entered.

But Connors, who would have been seeded fifth, told organisers yesterday he would have to withdraw because of a foot injury and Mecir, the world number seven, also pulled out with back

problems.

Their withdrawals meant Guillermo Perez-Roldan, the Argentine teenager who extended world number one Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia to five sets in Sunday's Italian Open final, and McEnroe take the last two seeded places.

In the women's draw, the only top players not entered at American Pam Shriver, who would have been third seed, and Bettina Bunge of West Germany.

Organisers at Roland Garros, where the French Open is played, said they were still waiting to hear from Italian 12th seed Raffaella Reggi whether she would be fit. American teenager Mary Joe Fernandez will get the final seeded place if she is not.

The official seedings announced today are as follows:

Men's singles:

1. Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia); 2. Stefan Edberg (Sweden); 3. Mats Wilander (Sweden); 4. Pat Cash (Australia); 5. Boris Becker (West Germany); 6. Yannick Noah (France); 7. Kent Carlsson (Sweden); 8. Tim Mayotte (US); 9. Andre Agassi (US); 10. Anders Jarryd (Sweden); 11. Henri Leconte (France); 12. Emilio Sanchez (Spain); 13. Andres Gomez (Ecuador); 14. Andrei Chesnokov (Soviet Union); 15. Guillermo Perez-Roldan (Argentina); 16. John McEnroe (US).

Women's singles:

1. Steffi Graf (West Germany); 2. Martina Navratilova (US); 3. Chris Evert (US); 4. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina); 5. Manuela Maleeva (Bulgaria); 6. Helena Sukova (Czechoslovakia); 7. Claudia Kohde-Kilsch (West Germany); 8. Hana Mandlikova (Australia); 9. Lori McNeil (US); 10. Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria); 11. Raffaella Reggi (Italy); 12. Larissa Savchenko (Soviet Union); 13. Sandra Cecchini (Italy); 14. Sylvia Hanika (West Germany); 15. Sylvia Hanika (West Germany); 16. Sylvia Hanika (West Germany).



McEnroe: 16th seed

Conner escapes injury

SAN DIEGO, California, May 18, (Reuters): The US Coast Guard decided yesterday not to investigate how possibly the world's best known yachtsman Dennis Conner came to capsize his catamaran and spend 20 minutes dog paddling.

Conner, winner of the America's Cup, and his five-man crew escaped injury on Sunday after they were dumped into San Diego Bay during training. They were practicing in the modified catamaran they were using to train for the upcoming America's Cup defence when the craft toppled on its side and lay sprawled in thick mud for several hours.

The 40-foot catamaran was heading out of the basin in light to moderate winds when it flipped, tossing the six men into the 58-degree water.

Extra crew weight and modifications of the mast — it was raised 18 feet to 81 feet — to give the craft more of the sailing characteristics Conner expects to get from his soon-to-be launched, 60-foot America's Cup defender — contributed to the mishap.

"I just suddenly went over," said one witness. "Conner and his crew went flying. There's nothing to stop a boater from capsizing his catamaran on the bay, that's part of sailing when a mistake is made. US Coast Guard chief Scott Inbody said.

Inbody said the coast guard, charged with investigating boating mishaps, would have been interested in finding out about the mishap at the time in order to determine if the vessel was a "hazard to navigation."

"I guess they didn't want further publicity," Inbody said. "It was righted and just sailed away."

The scene took place near the San Diego Yacht Club where Conner had just been named 'Yachtsman of the Year' for the sixth consecutive year.

"I go from being named 'Yachtsman of the Year' to being the goat of the day, tripped Conner when he reached shore."

Conner, who is not a proficient swimmer, dog-paddled for 20 minutes to the safety of the dock, just 45 feet away.

It took almost six hours to right the vessel. Lesleigh Green, spokeswoman for Conner's Stars and Stripes syndicate, said Conner was not treating the accident as a great disaster.

"He's treating it light-heartedly in fact," said Green.

Vandana in quarterfinals

VANDANA reached the quarterfinals of the Jimmy George Memorial Trophy volleyball tournament with 15-13 13-15 15-9 victory over Young School Boys at the Fahahel ground on Tuesday as the tourney got underway after a month-long break for the holy month of Ramadan.

Two teams also reached the semifinals on the same day. Al Jalili Food Centre thrashed Sports Lovers Club 15-9 15-9 while Royal Sporting Club overcame Al Othman Catering Co. 15-8 15-12 for a place in the last four.

Vandana were stretched to the limit by the Young School Boys. Except for the last set, Vandana did not have things their own way.

Two matches will be played tomorrow to decide the other semifinalists. In the first match Fernandes Brothers take on Camy Brothers at 6.30 am and at 7.30 am Kerala Sports 'B' meet Vandana.

The tournament is being sponsored by Vandana Weekly and organised by Kuwait Malayalee Samajam as part of their 10th anniversary celebrations.

Damiani to take on Biggs

MILAN, Italy, May 18, (AP): Unbeaten European heavyweight boxing champion Francesco Damiani will fight American Tyrell Biggs on his way toward a possible bout against world champion Mike Tyson. Italian manager Umberto Branchini said yesterday.

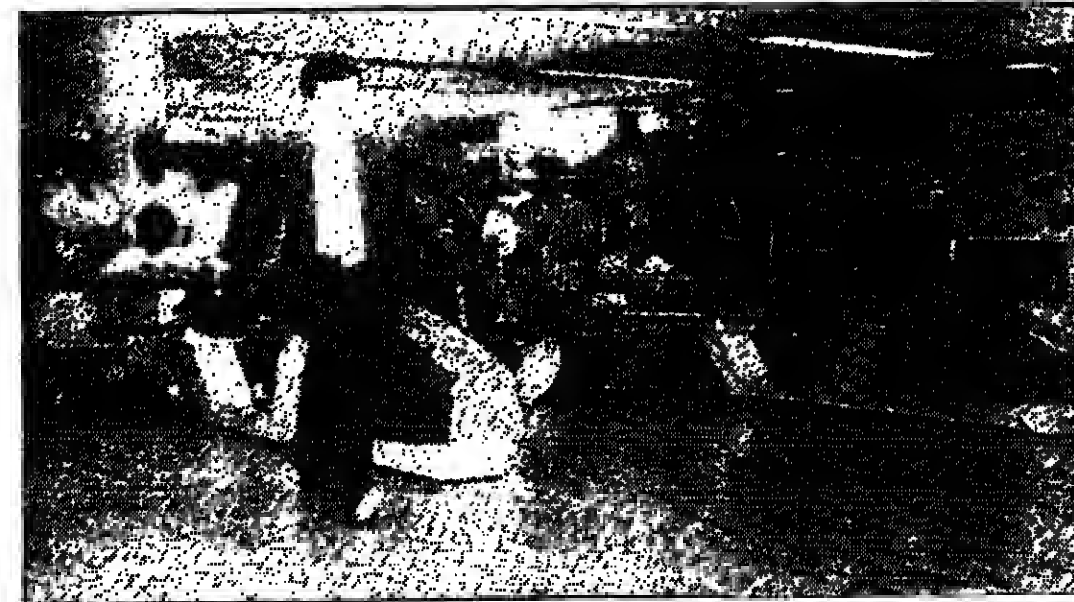
The 10-rounder between the 29-year-old Italian and Biggs will be held in Italy on July 3. It will be a rematch of the Los Angeles

Olympic final which Biggs won on a point decision.

The American boxer was knocked out by Tyson, the undisputed world heavyweight champion, in a title fight earlier this year.

Damiani, who scored 21 wins in as many professional fights, successfully defended his European crown last April 22 by knocking out Dutchman Johnny Emmen.

Nanta shines on opening day



Darwish throws the first ball to open the tournament

ARCHIE NANTA, of the Philippines, topped the standings in the men's division on the opening day of the Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) marathon bowling tournament yesterday at Club 300.

Nanta finished strongly to score 1611 points for nine games and finish ahead of the other 13 bowlers. The second place was taken by Carl Baginda, of the

Philippines with 1606 points while Jimmy Tadana was third with a total of 1576 pinfalls.

Lando Cahurao, in spite of doing badly in the last three frames, got the High Game with a score of 235.

The other positions on the opening day were as follows: 4th: Edwin Nepomuceno — 1,562; 5th: Jessie Javier — 1,539; 6th: Lando Cahurao — 1,537; 7th:

Marcial Balisi — 1,554; 8th: Tino Ocampo — 1,519; 9th: Art Cabal — 1,497; 10th: Homer Mesina — 1,458; 11th: Nes Sogale — 1,372; 12th: Boy Bagat — 1,369 and 13th: Sammy Begonia — 1,364. One of the bowlers did not finish his games.

Before the start of the games, the tournament was opened by Samer Darwish, manager of Boodai Aviation — the sponsors of the event.

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